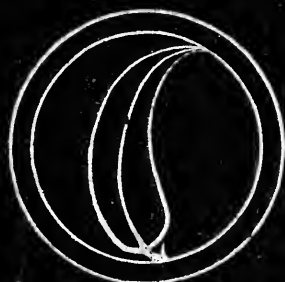


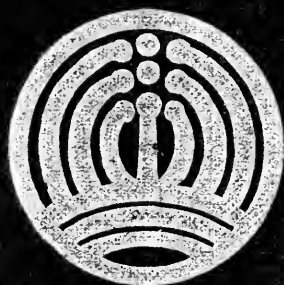
# THE FIRST JAPANESE EMBASSY



MURAGAKI



SHIMMI



OGURI



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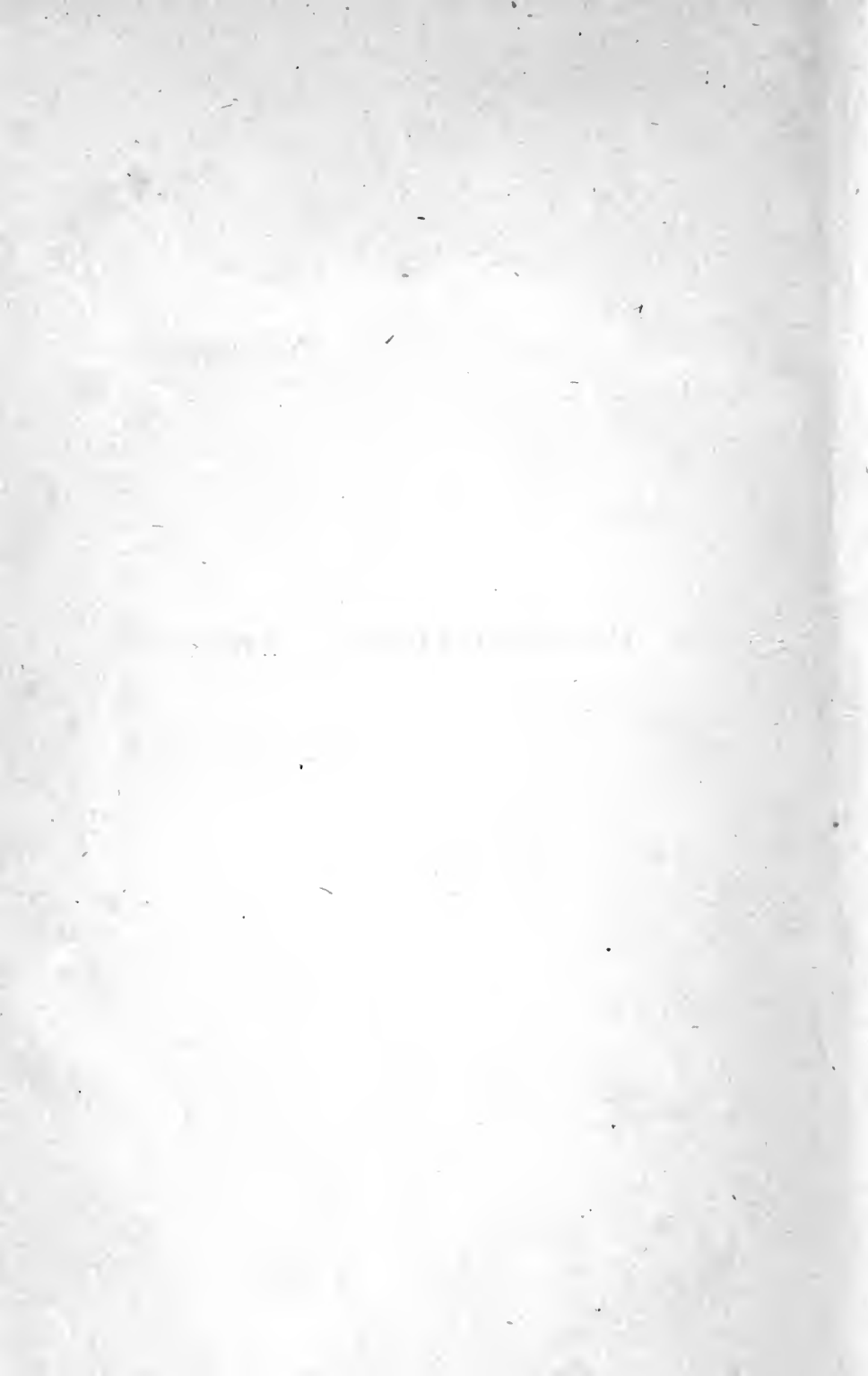
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# **THE FIRST JAPANESE EMBASSY**



10# 3411656

THE  
FIRST JAPANESE EMBASSY  
TO  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SENT TO WASHINGTON IN 1860 AS THE FIRST OF THE  
SERIES OF EMBASSIES SPECIALLY SENT ABROAD  
BY THE TOKUGAWA SHOGUNATE.

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THE AMERICA-JAPAN SOCIETY

TOKYO

1920

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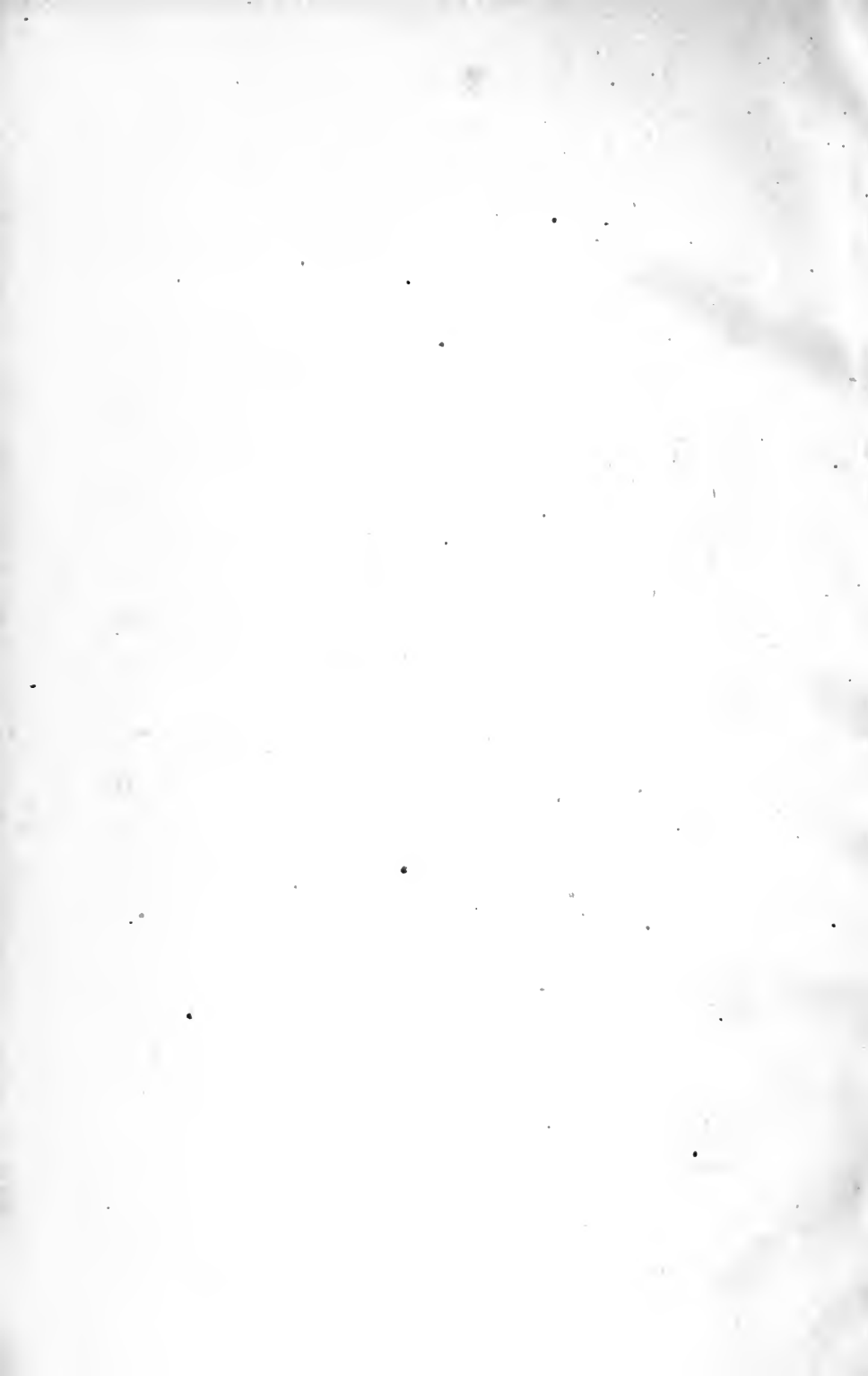


Muragaki Awajinokami

Shimmi Buzennokami

Oguri Bungonokami

(From photograph taken at Willard's Hotel, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.,  
June 4, 1860.)



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NOV 29 1958

most brilliant reception. Here the United States Government equipped her newly built man-of-war "Niagara," the biggest ship she had at that time, for the accommodation of the party, and in it they were safely conveyed, across the Atlantic, and via the Cape of Good Hope and the Indian Ocean, to Shinagawa. They returned home on the 28th of the Ninth month of the First year of Man-en (November 8th, 1860), having spent about ten months, it being a leap year, in this round-the-world tour.

Throughout the entire journey from start to finish the United States Government treated the whole party of seventy-seven persons as guests of the Nation, all the expenses of travel, hotels, carriages, etc., being defrayed by her national treasury. How great the total amount of expense was we have no means of knowing; but the fact that the Municipal Council of the city of Philadelphia appropriated the sum of ten thousand dollars for the welcome of the party, and the city of New York twice as much, is enough to enable us to conjecture the amount of the sums expended.

The diary also shows that the United States of America in thus enthusiastically welcoming the Japanese envoys was actuated by no ambitious motive, but rather by a sincere desire to bring this long closed empire into the light of modern civilization, that she might join the sisterhood of nations.

But when the envoys returned home from their mission, they found that Naosuke Ii, the late premier of the Shogunate, by whom they had been chosen to undertake this responsible mission, had been assassinated, and that the dignity of the Shogunate had fallen to the ground, the Shogunate having won the censure of the Imperial court for having ratified the treaty



contrary to the Imperial Will. Under such circumstances, the envoys could only report the result of their mission secretly to the authorities of the Shogunate, leaving the country at large in utter ignorance of the most cordial and hearty welcome that had been extended towards their countrymen by the United States Government and her citizens.

We, members of this Society, who learn for the first time these facts from this diary, not only feel grateful for the sincere friendship and good will shown us by the United States Government and her citizens sixty years ago, but are inspired with renewed zeal to make every possible effort to bring about still closer relations between our two countries.

Viscount K. Kaneko

President of the America-Japan Society



## COMPILER'S PREFACE

The Japanese text of the Muragaki Diary was published by The America-Japan Society and distributed among its members in May, 1918, not long after the Honorable Roland S. Morris, the American Ambassador, had visited the grave of Ambassador Shimmi, late Lord of Buzen.

At that time it was hoped that the publication of this English edition of the Diary would soon follow: but it was found that the Tokyo printing houses capable of doing work in English were so busy that much delay was unavoidable. During this lengthened period of publication other materials of value have been secured and are here presented with the Diary.

This additional material consists of articles which appeared in American papers and periodicals of 1860, giving contemporary comment, and also of chapters and shorter excerpts from later historical and political works containing references to the visit of the Japanese embassy. Of the former, Nos. 234, 235, 237, and 240 of "Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper," and Nos. 177, 178, and 183 of "Harper's Weekly," have been kindly put at our disposal by the Society for Historical Research and Compilation of Documents relating to the Revolutionary Epoch of Modern Japan. A copy of "The New-York Illustrated News," Vol. II, No. 29, we owe to the generosity of the venerable scholar, Dr. Fumihiko Otsuki. Also to make up a gap it was necessary to borrow a chapter from Dr. Steiner's "The Japanese Invasion," while Mr. Du Bois's lecture read

before the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, 1910, explains in detail another important mission of the Embassy.

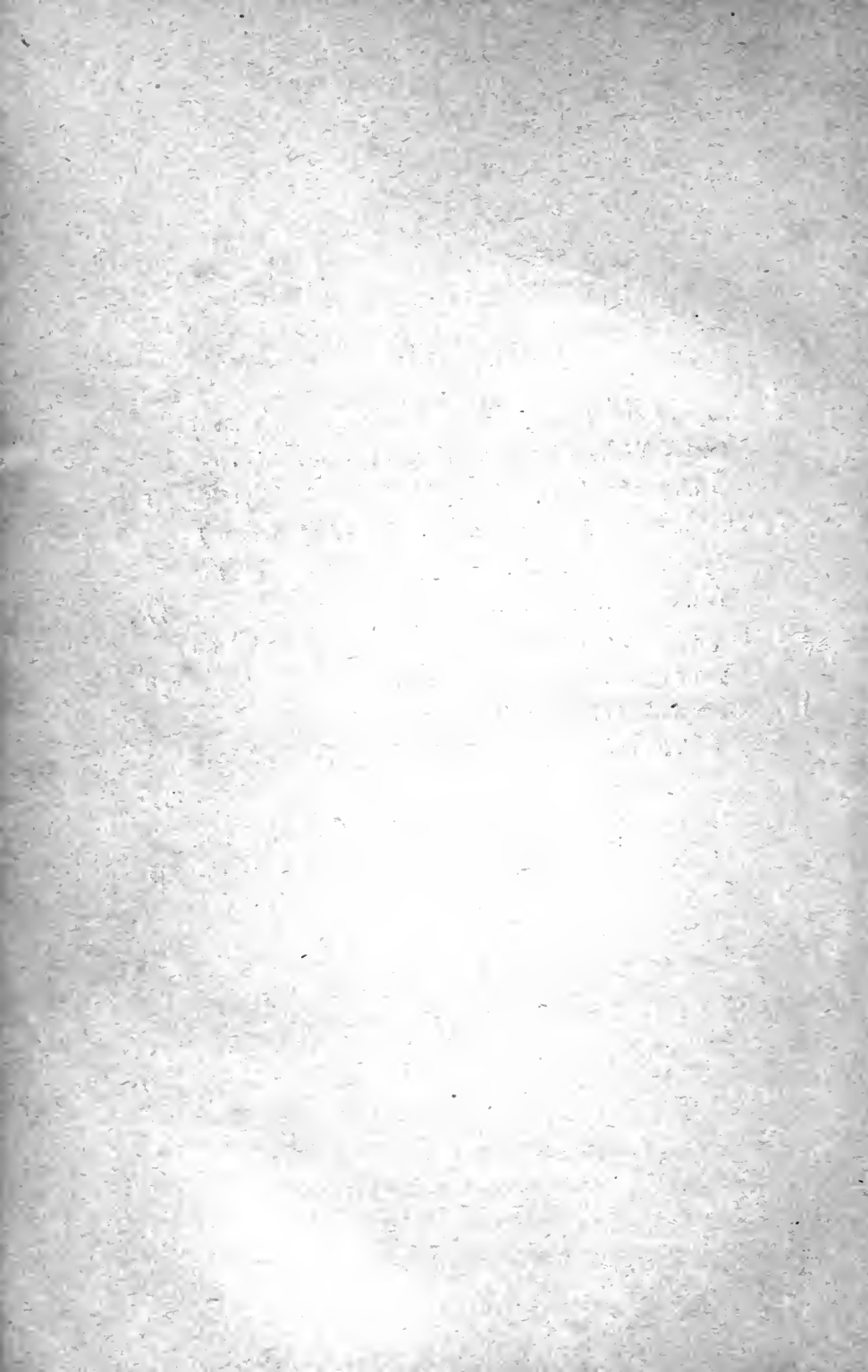
Three chapters of "China and Japan," written by Lieut. J. D. Johnston, U. S. N., Executive Officer of the *Powhatan*, were supplied by Mr. S. Miyoshi, who translated the Diary.

A minor point in dispute may here be mentioned. The number making up the whole party of the Embassy differs with different authors, but an investigation into various sources both in Japanese and in English has established the fact that the Embassy was at first composed of seventy-seven persons, but that the number visiting Washington was seventy-six, one of the servants having been left at San Francisco in consequence of illness.

C. Shibama  
Compiler.

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# DIARY OF THE FIRST JAPANESE EMBASSY TO THE UNITED STATES

Written by  
MURAGAKI-AWAJI-NO-KAMI  
VICE-AMBASSADOR

*Translation by Mr. Shigehiko Miyoshi.*

---

**February 9th, 1860.**

At last the day of our departure has arrived. The bright morning sun, with a bracing winter breeze, heralded the first day of our voyage to America. Towards noon, the party of eighty-one assembled on the pier at Shiba and from there were rowed in a number of boats, against a heavy wind, to the American war-ship "Powhatan" which was anchored off the fort.

As we stepped on the ship's ladder, the band struck up a lively air and on our reaching the gangway we were courteously received by Commodore Tattnall and Captain Pearson, while a salute of seventeen guns was fired. We found the deck encumbered with all our luggage, and with piled-up cases of stores, and the utmost confusion reigned until the various packages were collected and sorted. Soon after we had descended to the lower deck and had taken possession of our quarters, the order to cast off was given and the ship immediately got under way, her paddles revolving furiously. Towards evening, after an hour's swift sailing along the coast, we arrived at Yokohama and were told that the ship would remain in port for a few days before she started on her trans-Pacific voyage. We were greatly pleased to find that we should have ample time to arrange our belongings in our temporary home, before putting out to sea.

U.S.S. "Powhatan" is a steam frigate of 2415 tons. She was launched in 1855 at Gosport, Virginia, U.S.A. She ranks as a first class frigate and is a magnificent ship—one of the best in the American Navy. Her dimensions are: length 250 feet, beam 45 feet, hold 26 feet, and she carries eleven guns on deck. Three of us have cabins on the lower deck; for the other members of the party several large temporary cabins have been built on the gun deck, necessitating the removal of several guns. The officers and men of the "Powhatan" are as follows: Commodore Tattnall, Captain Pearson, Captain Taylor of the Marines, six lieutenants, one Chief Engineer, seven assistant engineers, three doctors, a purser, a Chaplain, a gunner, a carpenter and a crew of four hundred men.

#### **February 10th.**

A strong westerly wind is blowing, but being a large craft our ship is as steady as a rock and extremely comfortable. This afternoon several of our friends came on board to bid us farewell. After a very pleasant talk and the exchange of good wishes, they took leave of us.

#### **February 11th.**

The day is clear, with very little wind. All our belongings have now been unpacked and arranged so as not to interfere with the cabins being kept in order. This afternoon we were invited by the Captain to inspect the ship and we were shown all over her. At the foot of the mizzen-mast, four sailors are on guard, and close to the mast is the Commodore's bridge, where one officer is constantly on the watch: upon him rests the responsibility for the navigation of the ship. Near the mast a special kitchen



for our party has recently been built. The officers' mess room is spacious and has a large table in the centre. It is surrounded by the officers' cabins. What struck me most was the ship's engine. It is a most ingenious machine and is quite beyond description. The crew sleep in hammocks. We also visited the ship's hospital and prison. Ammunition is stored on the third deck, and water is kept in tanks below. At five o'clock every morning a gun is fired as a signal to get up, and this is followed by the drums and fifes. The crew then begin work, cleaning iron, polishing brass and scrubbing the decks. At eight o'clock the national flag is hoisted, while the ship's band plays. After breakfast, the marines are at their respective posts, under arms, and the crew parades before the Captain and answers the roll call. This is done twice a day, morning and evening, throughout a voyage. The flag is lowered at four p. m., to the accompaniment of the band. All the crew have to go to their bunks upon a signal being fired at 8 o'clock. Before the door of the Captain's cabin a marine is on guard day and night, and the officers on duty have to report to the Captain anything of importance that may happen on board. The responsibility of the ship's direction and navigation rests wholly on the Captain's shoulders.

The Commodore seems to be one degree higher in rank than the Captain. His duties do not lie in the supervision of individual ships, but in that of the fleet as a whole. Strict discipline is maintained throughout the ship. It began to snow this evening.

#### **February 13th.**

A bright sunny day. By seven in the morning the frigate had weighed anchor and was steaming slowly, following the coast

of the Bay of Yedo. Before us, beyond the clear expanse of sea, stretch the shores of the bay, little fishing villages lying scattered at the foot of the snow-capped hills. Fishing boats float leisurely here and there, and, as we pass, the fishermen gaze at us, amazement in their eyes, astonished to see officials of their country on board a foreign warship. It is no wonder that they are surprised, for the Japanese have hitherto been forbidden by the law of Japan to leave their country.

At noon we rounded the eastern cape of the bay. In the far distance we see majestic Fuji, raising his head in solemn grandeur, as if to bid farewell to the first ambassadors that Japan has ever sent abroad. No sooner had we found ourselves on the bosom of the broad Pacific, than a heavy swell set in. We suffered much discomfort from the rolling of the ship and some of our party, overcome by seasickness, disappeared. I myself became a victim and was compelled to go below.

#### **February 14th.**

Many of our party are now victims of the "sea devil." Some suffer more than others, while a certain number are unaffected by the motion of the sea. The strong and healthy are very often bad sailors, whereas delicate men are quite at their ease on board ship. Physical strength has nothing to do with seasickness. Suffering badly from the malady I lay down in my cabin all day. One of my servants has come to tell me that the land is no longer in sight; nothing is to be seen but the sky and the mountainous waves upon which the ship is constantly rising and falling.

#### **February 16th.**

Since we left Yokohama the wind has daily increased in strength and the sea has become rougher, causing the ship to pitch

and roll to such a degree that our lives are made most miserable. The Commodore comes to see me every day to enquire after my health, and every time he comes he advises me to go on deck and get some fresh air ; that, he says, is the only way to cure seasickness. An indescribable sensation has, however, overcome me each time I have attempted to get up and has forced me back to bed.

### **February 18th.**

The Commodore has frequently sent me nice things to eat, but, to my disappointment, my stomach refuses to retain them. Towards evening the clouds gathered and became almost black, and a terrific gale set in. The pitching and rolling of the ship now became excessive ; the luggage which had been fastened down on deck, got loose and cases dashed against each other, and every now and then we could hear the crash of breaking glass and porcelain. How can I possibly endure the discomforts of this new home of mine ! Finding myself in danger of falling out of bed, I had to cling with all my might to the bedpost. Every one of the party had some bitter experience to relate, but worse than any was the plight of those who were quartered on the upper deck where the angry waves shattered the doors and forced them to rush below, as wet as fishes. When the storm was at its height, the vessel tilted to an angle of 32 degrees, thus almost reaching the point at which a ship must necessarily overbalance. The huge waves that constantly sweep the deck carried away one of the boats and further damage was done. The gallant way in which the officers and crew, who remained on deck the whole time, fought the storm, is indeed worthy of praise. It was a great relief to all when, towards morning, the storm ceased. The

Commodore told us that at 35 degrees north latitude the sea is usually rough during the winter months, but, he added, never in all his twenty-eight years' experience of the sea, had he ever encountered such a tempest as that which we have just had. I wonder who gave the fine name of " Pacific " to this ever-angry sea.

#### **February 22nd.**

The sea is still rough and a strong wind has been against us all day. This is the birthday of George Washington, the first President and the Father of the United States. Owing to the rough weather, however, the salute with which it is usual to celebrate this national holiday was not fired.

#### **February 24th.**

We have already been ten days at sea and are gradually becoming used to it and are feeling better. For the first time since we left port, I went on deck, and after the closeness below, where I had so long remained, I found the fresh air very enjoyable. For some time I watched the huge rollers on which the ship was tossed; then, it being too cold to stay on deck so long, I retired to my own little cabin. This afternoon, rather to my surprise, I found that the boiled rice served to me was brown in colour. On my questioning one of the officers, I learned that the colour was due to the presence in the tank water of rust, dislodged by the constant motion of the ship. It is, however, quite harmless, if unpleasant. This explanation reassured me and I can now drink the water and eat the food it is cooked in with a mind at ease. Fresh water is of supreme importance on board ship. It is kept below in several large tanks, and the quantity used is

strictly limited. Each person is allowed half a gallon a day, and this has to suffice for cooking, washing and for use in the cabin. I have not more than a jugful a day. Not a drop must be wasted. The scarcity of water is one of the greatest of the discomforts of life at sea, and it is one of which those who have never been on a long sea voyage can scarcely form an idea. We have now sailed half-way across the Pacific.

#### **February 26th.**

The sea is still rough. The head wind is increasing in force. We are now running all the time by steam and, the supply of coal becoming short, the Captain has decided to leave the direct route to San Francisco and make use of the wind to run to the Sandwich Islands for coal. Since morning the ship's course has been due south.

#### **March 1st.**

To-day I saw several flocks of birds. I never thought to see birds in mid-ocean, thousands of miles from the nearest land. Oh, my birds! whence come you and whither go you?

As, with a favourable wind (which, by the way, continued as far as the Sandwich Islands), we make our way south, the weather daily becomes warmer. All the members of our party have now found their sea legs and have become more cheerful and happy.

#### **March 5th.**

Awakened early this morning by the joyful cry of "Land!" I hurried on deck. A dark line was visible in the distance, like a streak of grey cloud under a sinking moon. How overjoyed I was to see land again, after the mis-

erable life on the stormy sea—three weeks of unendurable monotony of sea and sky! It was not very long before we could see the islands, and, finally, after sailing along the coast, we reached the harbour of Honolulu where, about noon, we anchored.

Honolulu is the capital of the Sandwich Islands and is situated on the eastern coast of the island of Hawai. Commodore-Tattnall told us that the "Powhatan" would remain here for about ten days to repair the damage done by the storm, and to coal, and he suggested that we should go ashore and stay at an hotel where he had already engaged accommodation for us, adding that, during our stay, the American Minister would look after us.

This afternoon our party left the ship in several boats for the shore, where we found a number of two-horse carriages awaiting us. Captain Taylor and we two in the first carriage, led the long procession. We drove through a large crowd of natives eager to get a sight of the strange visitors to their kingdom. The hotel, owned by a Frenchman, was reached in about a quarter of an hour. It is a two-storied house with a wide balcony running all round it. We each of us now have a large comfortable room. As, standing on the balcony, I see luxuriant tropical plants and flowers brightening the whole garden with their wonderful colour and beauty, and feel the fresh soft spring breeze of the early days of March, I am filled with great joy and happiness, after the long weary days at sea.

#### **March 6th.**

Feeling fresh and well, I spent most of the morning on the wide, comfortable verandah, in pleasant conversation with a few

members of the party. At 2 o'clock this afternoon, we drove with Captain Taylor to the suburbs of the city. In the fields we saw melons ripening thus early in the season, and banana trees with their huge clusters of fruit, while in the gardens there was a profusion of glorious flowers of every colour, shade and shape. We drove back to the hotel towards evening, admiring the beautiful scenery on our way.

#### **March 7th.**

At 2 p. m. we walked to the principal thoroughfare of the city. Most of the houses in these streets are built of brick and are two stories high; the merchants living in them are all either European or American.

The natives are dark-skinned and they appear to be good natured, but they do not strike me as being a very intelligent race. They are all, men and women, scantily clothed, and are barefoot. We visited a newspaper office, and were much interested in watching the process of printing. The machine is a wonderful one and works well. When a large wheel is turned by a man, smaller wheels are set in motion. One part of the machine supplies the ink, another receives the paper and passes it on to the types. When finished, the papers are automatically ejected. All this is done so quickly that several hundreds were printed while we looked on. I returned to the hotel, weary with walking, but with a keener sense of enjoyment than I had experienced since I left home.

#### **March 8th.**

In the afternoon we paid an official call on the Minister of State of the Islands, at the Government House. The American

Minister, Commodore Tattnall and Captain Pearson accompanied us. As we entered the gate we saw the guard of honour, which lined both sides of the road leading to the main entrance of the building. We were shown into a large reception room, where we were received by the three principal Ministers of the Kingdom, and by several other officials. We thanked them for the kind attentions shown us by the Government since our arrival in the Islands on our way to the United States of America. After healths had been drunk in glasses of champagne, we drove back by the same route to the hotel.

Captain Taylor tells us that an American whaler will shortly leave the Islands for Hakodate, the most northerly port of Japan, and he says that if we wish to send letters, she will take them there for us. As I was once Governor of that port and as I still have friends there, I have devoted most of the evening to writing to them, to my home and to my friends in Yedo.\* This is our first mail for home since we left, and I can well imagine how greatly interested they will all be in reading our letters telling them of our novel experiences on land and sea.

#### **March 9th.**

Captain Taylor told us this morning that the King of the Hawaiian Islands wished to meet us, but we replied that our mission was to the United States of America and that it was not desirable that we should be presented to the sovereign of any country before seeing the President of America. However, after Captain Taylor had explained the forms and customs of international courtesy observed by all other countries, we decided to do as he suggested and see the King.

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\* Now called Tokyo.



At 2 o'clock this afternoon we left the hotel, accompanied by Captain Taylor, and again drove to the Government House. Prince Kamehameha, the King's brother, arrived at the same time as we did. He told us that royal carriages had been provided for us, and that he had been sent by the King to escort us to His Majesty's Palace. Shimmi, Captain Taylor, and I were in the first carriage; Oguri the "Ometsuke,"\* our Secretaries Morita, Naruse and Hidaka and the interpreters Namura and Tateishi followed in other carriages. Escorted by four cavalry officers, we drove through the streets. When we reached the Palace Gate, the guard of honour lined up, and, at the command of an officer, presented arms. As we left the carriages at the foot of the flight of stairs leading to the Palace entrance, the band struck up. We were received by a Minister of State. The American Minister, Commodore Tattnall and Captain Pearson were already there. We were ushered into a large room, where several Ministers were awaiting us. After a short interval Shimmi, arm in arm with Mr. Borden, the American Minister, I with Commodore Tattnall and Oguri with Captain Pearson, entered the Audience Hall and were presented to the King of Hawaii. His Majesty, wearing a black coat, a broad gold band across his shoulders, stood on a slightly raised platform. An interpreter stood close by him and on either side were four officers holding beautifully ornamented spears. Behind the King stood a number of high officials. On entering the King's presence we bowed low, according to our custom on similar occasions. His Majesty then addressed us, the substance of his speech being as follows :—

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\* "Ometsuke" was a special censor common in the time of Tokugawa Shogunate.

“ I have much pleasure in welcoming you to my Kingdom, and I congratulate myself on the fortunate circumstances that have afforded me an opportunity of receiving you as my guests—with the kind permission of the United States Minister and of the gentlemen in whose care you at present are—on your way as ambassadors of the great Empire of Japan to the friendly Government of the United States of America, a nation to which my people are so much indebted.— I shall feel greatly gratified if your visit to these Islands proves agreeable to you, and I hope that when you return to Japan, you will express to your Sovereign, on my behalf, the high esteem in which I hold His Majesty and his people, and that you will tell him of the meeting which I have had the honour of having with you.”

Shimmi's reply to the King—first translated into Dutch by Namura, Interpreter to the Embassy, and then into English by an American interpreter—was to the following effect :—

“ I am greatly obliged for the friendly reception with which your Majesty has honoured us, and I beg to express my thanks for the trouble which your Majesty has been pleased to take. I shall not forget the kindness with which we have been received, not only by your Majesty, but also by the inhabitants of your City.”

At the conclusion of these addresses, we retired. On our re-entering the Audience Hall we were presented to the Queen who had taken up her position where the King had stood. She was attended by the Princess Royal and by a number of native and foreign ladies. The Queen is a young woman of about twenty-five years of age, and is dignified and beautiful. She wore a most amazing dress which exposed the whole of her shoulders

and half of her bosom. The skirt was expanded to an enormous extent at the bottom. Round her neck she wore a jewelled chain. The presentation over, Her Majesty withdrew on the arm of a General and the ladies followed, each on the arm of an officer. This seems to be one of the customs of the land on these occasions.

We now left the Hall, and, to the music of the band, were escorted by the Ministers, to the carriages. Thus ended the first presentation, in the history of my country, of an Ambassador of Japan to a foreign King. To us it was a novel state function, the manners and customs being essentially different from those of our country.

#### **March 10th.**

At 2 o'clock this afternoon the French Consul-General called on us. Soon after he left, we saw the Hawaiian Minister for Foreign Affairs entering the gate of the hotel. He was escorted by armed guards and was accompanied by a band which was playing. We received him cordially as we understood that he had come on behalf of the King to return thanks for our visit to His Majesty yesterday. At 3 o'clock we left the hotel and went to the pier where we secured launches and returned to the "Powhatan." Our good Commodore was pleased when we told him that as soon as we got on deck of our dear "Powhatan" we felt that we had returned home. We brought various fruits and a number of chickens on board with us for the officers and men, as a souvenir of our visit on shore.

#### **March 12th.**

We went on shore at 11 this morning and had a visit from the American Minister and three of the Hawaiian

Ministers of State. The American Minister told us that he is going to give a grand reception this evening, at which the King and the Queen of Hawai are to be his guests. He invited us, but, owing to the custom of our country that no official functions shall take place after sunset, we politely declined his kind invitation and returned to the ship.

#### **March 13th.**

We received an invitation to be present at a dance which is to be given at the King's Palace this evening. All the officers of the "Powhatan" will be there. We, however, declined this invitation also, for the reason we had previously given. No! We do not care to take part in any merry-making until after the conclusion of our great mission to the United States.

#### **March 14th.**

An American who has long been resident in the Hawaiian Islands, came on board the "Powhatan" this morning and I happened to meet him. He told me that the natives of these islands were in a primitive state of civilisation before they had intercourse with Europeans, and that the Islands had only recently been formed into an independent Kingdom. The present King, Alexander Kamehameha, is a native of pure race, of the usual South Sea Islander type. The total area of the eight Islands is not more than that of Shikoku Island, and their productions are unimportant, the principal source of revenue being the customs. Since the Pacific coast of America became flourishing and prosperous, and since the Indian and Chinese ports were opened to American traders, the importance of the Hawaiian Islands, as a stopping place, has greatly increased, for

they are situated midway between the American and Asiatic continents. At the beginning of the century—when, in spite of the fact that numbers of Europeans and Americans had settled there and that the Western nations had begun to send ministers and consuls, the Hawaiian Islands were but little known to the outside world—they were invaded by England, their only warship captured and their King taken prisoner. Subsequently, however, the English abandoned possession of the islands and the King returned to his kingdom. The majority of the foreign residents are Americans, and, as America is the nearest neighbour of the Hawaiian Islands and has a great deal of influence in the islands, they have become, as it were, a partly dependent state of America.

#### **March 16th.**

We went on shore, as previously arranged, to pay a visit to the American Minister. On arriving at his residence we were received by him and his wife. They live in a nice two-storied house surrounded by a large garden, in which tropical plants and flowers luxuriate. Among the latter we saw for the first time a plant about ten feet high, which is said to blossom once in a hundred years. We next returned the call of the French Minister. In the afternoon I went to see Mr. Heath, one of the Court law officials. I used to know his son, a physician, who came to reside at Hakodate while I was Governor there. Shortly after I arrived Honolulu Mr. Heath came to see me, and he came again yesterday and asked me to visit his home. I was introduced to his wife and children and they seemed greatly pleased to meet someone who knew their son and brother in that far-off land. One of the daughters sang for me and played on a musical

instrument which they call a piano. This is the first time that I have heard American music and songs, and they excited in me no little interest and curiosity. While the children were in the midst of their joy and excitement over the little souvenirs of Japan which I had brought them, I left this happy home and returned straight to the ship.

#### **March 17th.**

At 11 a. m. Queen Emma, with a retinue of ladies, came on board to inspect the "Powhatan" and, shortly after she had left, the King came, attended by his suite. The ship's band played, the sailors manned the rigging, and a salute of twenty-one guns thundered out. This appears to be the highest honour that can be paid to a guest on a warship. We were invited to luncheon and sat at the King's table.

Having been told that the ship would be ready to leave tomorrow, we asked for the accounts for our hotel and other expenses and learnt to our surprise that we were to consider ourselves as the King's guests during our stay on shore. We demurred, inasmuch as the Hawaiian Kingdom is not yet one of our Treaty Powers. We were, however, not allowed to pay. We could not do otherwise than accept the King's gracious kindness, which we thoroughly appreciate, and leave the matter to our Government, who will return the courtesy by presenting some valuable articles from home.

#### **March 18th.**

The King sent his Minister to convey his farewell greetings to us. The French Minister also came on board to wish us a pleasant voyage. As the "Powhatan" weighed anchor, seven-

teen guns were fired from the fort on the hill. The salute was returned by the "Powhatan," and at 3 p. m. we began slowly to steam from Honolulu and were soon again on the open sea.

#### **March 25th.**

We have already been a week at sea since leaving Hawaii, and each day bright sunshine, a smooth sea, and warm, soft breezes have made life extremely pleasant. Our party, in happy and merry groups, remain on deck from sunrise until late in the evening. Nevertheless, the life is monotonous ; there is nothing to be seen but sea and sky, and the days begin to appear very long.

#### **March 27th.**

Some one told me that this morning at dawn—that is at about 2 o'clock—the sky, for a distance of something like eight miles, was a blaze of beautiful crimson. This lasted for about half an hour, when the brilliant colour suddenly faded away. Some say that it is a bad omen, but one of the officers told me that this atmospheric change of colour is simply due to the evaporation of the warm southern air as it ascends on meeting the colder air from the north. I did not see this interesting phenomenon, as I was in bed at the time. I asked an officer to let me know when it occurred again, as I was most anxious to see it, but this was the only occasion on which it was seen.

The wind is now daily becoming colder, as we have sailed some degrees to the north. Sitting on deck this evening in the bright moonlight, my thoughts went back to the old happy home, and I forgot that I was on the ocean, thousands of miles away. The same moon sheds its rays over this ocean and over

my country, and, as I gazed at its familiar face, it was difficult for me to realise that I was so far from home.

**March 29th.**

At early dawn, we descried the dim light from the lighthouse at the entrance to the bay of San Francisco. A gun was fired from our ship as a signal for a pilot. Soon afterwards a pilot schooner was seen approaching. The pilot handed us the local newspapers, from which we learnt that the Japanese warship "Kanrin" had reached the port a fortnight ago. We now entered the harbour and our ears were assailed by a deafening noise of firing from the guns in the fort and on the warships: this was intensified when "Powhatan" fired a return salute. We cast anchor in front of the city. When the smoke from the guns had cleared away, we were agreeably surprised to see the flag of the Rising Sun flying at the fort and at the foremast of all the ships in the harbour, to greet and welcome the first Ambassadors ever sent abroad by the far eastern Empire. After a short time the "Powhatan" weighed anchor and slowly steamed down to the end of the bay, which narrowed gradually as we proceeded. The land gently sloping on both sides of the bay, was covered with beautiful green like a carpet of green velvet. Cattle and sheep grazed placidly here and there, and the whole scene made a pleasing picture which was most welcome after we had been so many days at sea.

At 3 p.m. we reached the end of the bay, where, at the mouth of the river, was the Navy Yard. As soon as we had come alongside the pier, the officers of the "Kanrin" came on board to greet us. The "Kanrin" left Yedo four days before us, as an escort for the Ambassadors to America. Following the Northern



Pacific route, they had to contend, during the whole voyage, with cold and boisterous winds and often with very rough seas which greatly damaged the ship, and, finally, after thirty-five days, like a hare wounded in a desperate fight, the little craft reached San Francisco. She is now in dock being repaired by the American Authorities. The damage, however, is so extensive that it will be several weeks before she will be ready for sea. We are sorry that she will be unable to escort us to Panama as it was originally intended that she should do. We remain here for a few days and then go on to Panama.

Before the "Kanrin" left for San Francisco, the Japanese Government requested Commodore Tattnall to allow one of his officers to sail in her to assist our men in the navigation of the vessel across the Pacific, as none of our officers had ever undertaken so long a voyage. The Commodore willingly agreed to this request and selected Lieutenant Brooks for the purpose. This officer, by his professional skill, won the entire confidence of our men.

#### **March 30th.**

This morning we set foot for the first time on American soil. We called on Commodore Cunningham of the Navy Yard to pay our respects and presented him a sword blade as a souvenir of Japan. We then returned the call of Admiral Kimura and Captain Katsu of the "Kanrin." Their temporary quarters are next to those of the Commodore. We have been busy this afternoon writing home, as a ship will shortly leave for Yokohama. This is the second mail home, the first having been sent from Honolulu. Enclosed in each letter are pressed flowers picked this morning.

### **March 31st.**

Early to-day the Mayor of San Francisco and other high functionaries came on board the "Powhatan," and we were introduced to them by Commodore Tattnall. They expressed a desire that we should return with them to San Francisco as the guests of the city. At 11 a. m. accompanied by Commodore Tattnall and Captain Taylor, we went on board the U. S. S. "Alacrity." As we were being shown into a spacious saloon amidships, the band commenced to play softly and a salute of seventeen guns broke upon the still soft air of early spring. The "Powhatan" intended to return the salute, but, to our surprise, only one gun was fired. We learnt afterwards that this was in consequence of Commodore Cunningham's having met with an accident. He had unfortunately been standing near the line of fire and he was, we regretted to hear, seriously injured by the concussion. The American Navy prides itself on its proficiency in gunnery, so we rather wondered how it was that both the Commodore and the gunner came to make such a careless mistake.

At 2 p. m. we arrived at San Francisco. Leaving the ship, we walked along a long pier, at the head of which a number of carriages were waiting for us. Shimmi and I with Commodore Tattnall and the Mayor were in one, and Oguri, Naruse and our Secretaries followed in the others, and we drove slowly through streets thronged with spectators. It took us quite a long time to reach the hotel; possibly arrangements had been made for us to drive through the principal thoroughfares in order to enable the crowds to see the Oriental visitors. Thanking the Mayor and the others for the kind reception accorded us, we

went to our respective rooms on the third floor of the hotel. We spent a quiet evening talking over the new and interesting experiences of these our first days on American soil.

#### **April 1st.**

Ever since we set foot in America the weather has been unfavourable. We have had rain every day and to-day is no exception. We have been confined to the hotel all day. However, from the balcony and from the numerous windows of our suite, I have been able to obtain vistas of San Francisco, a city extending from the wide sea-front to the rolling hills from which there is a fine view of the whole city and of the bay. The streets are wide, with two-storied houses, mostly built of brick, on both sides. The roads are generally divided into three parts; the centre is cobbled and is used for vehicular traffic; on either side of this there is a walk paved with planks, for pedestrians only. One never sees men in the streets carrying goods on their shoulders or on their back; this work is all done by horses. The people drive in carriages drawn by horses, instead of in sedan chairs as we do at home. We were told that the tall brick chimneys which we see here and there rise from buildings in which all sorts of articles are made by machinery driven by steam power. I noticed a large round structure at a street corner; this I was told, is used to store gas, an inflammable air made from coal and now utilised all over the country for lighting purposes. Gas, in this part of the world, is taking the place of oil.

#### **April 2nd.**

In the morning we received visits from the English, French and Sardinian Consuls, and from the Secretary of the Governor

of California. The last named gentleman told us that he had been sent by the Governor to invite the Japanese Embassy to visit his capital, two hundred miles distant; but, although we appreciated his kindness, we were obliged politely to decline his invitation, owing to the limited time we had at our disposal before our departure for Panama.

This was the day that had been fixed by the Mayor of San Francisco for the presentation of the Japanese Ambassadors to the principal citizens. At 2 o'clock, accompanied by Commodore Tattnall and Captain Taylor, we left the hôtel and drove through the streets, our carriages forming a long procession. As we passed the City Hall, we were greeted with a salute of seventeen guns, fired from the open space in front of it. Continuing our drive, we reached a large public building standing close to the road, from which it was not fenced off. A number of guardsmen wearing bearskin caps, lined the steps leading to the entrance, and the space in front was densely crowded with people who had come to witness our arrival. Walking up the steps, we were shown into the great Hall where the band commenced to play. We were conducted by the Mayor to a raised platform, four feet high and 20 feet long. No sooner had we mounted the platform than a procession of over a hundred of the principal citizens advanced towards us. Each gentleman, as he came in front of us, introduced himself by name and shook hands with us. Another large party of citizens was waiting, but they were not presented individually; Captain Taylor introduced us to them, whereupon they took off their hats and we returned their greeting. This formal ceremony over, we were conducted to the spacious Banqueting Hall, where there was a large table hand-

somely decorated with flowers of various shapes and colours. There were also the fruits of the season and all sorts of sweets and cakes, some of which were of gigantic size. The Mayor sat at the centre of the table; Shimmi as Chief Ambassador, sat on his right and I, as Vice Ambassador, on his left. The remaining members of our party were scattered among the other hosts. The English, French, Russian and Dutch Consuls were also present. As soon as all the hosts and guests—to the number of over a hundred and fifty—had taken their seats, the dinner commenced. With the different courses of meat, game and vegetables, glass after glass of various kinds of wines was filled. Towards the end of the banquet, the largest of several glasses which stood beside each plate, was filled with a spirit which they call champagne. This had scarcely been done when the Mayor stood up and struck the table with a knife handle. The band stopped playing and the Mayor commenced to speak. At the end of his speech everybody rose and gave three loud shouts at the top of their voices. Not knowing the meaning of this sudden outburst, we could only follow the example of the others. It was an awkward moment for us, owing to our ignorance of American customs upon such occasions. We learnt, later on, through our interpreter, that the Mayor had proposed the health of our Sovereign wishing him peace and prosperity; the others then joined him in cheering, which meant that all heartily participated in his good wishes. After a little time, when the noise had subsided, the Mayor again rose and made another speech in which he congratulated America and Japan upon this, their first treaty of commerce and friendship, and he wished the Ambassadors, now on their way to Washington with that treaty, a

pleasant journey. All joined the Mayor in drinking our healths. Commodore Tattnall then, on our behalf, proposed the health of the President of the United States of America. After this exchange of official courtesies, speeches were made by some of the foreign Consuls and by several other gentlemen. Each speaker appeared to do his best to attract and hold the attention of his audience by selecting words and expressions suitable to such a special occasion. The speeches were often interrupted by clapping of hands and by the table being struck. Clapping the hands is said to be a better expression of approbation than rapping the table. We were very sorry that we were unable to understand the speeches that referred to our country and to ourselves. As the successive orators finished their speeches, the noise of clapping and the pistol-like reports made by the opening of champagne bottles, simply deafened us, accustomed as we are to the quiet manners observed at our own banquets. Thinking that it was now time for us to retire, we asked Captain Taylor to tell the Mayor so. The Mayor thereupon rose and thanked the Ambassadors for their presence at the banquet, and we, on leaving, expressed our appreciation of the great honour done us. We then drove back, escorted by the Mayor, to the pier where the "Alacrity" awaited us. During the three hours which it took us to steam down the bay to the Navy Yard, we talked of nothing but our recent experiences. There had been so much that was wonderful and new to us that we began to doubt whether we had not been wandering in fairyland.

#### **April 3rd.**

On the return, to-day, of the "Alacrity" to San Francisco,

we sent the Mayor the blade of a Japanese sword and a roll of silk crêpe in token of our appreciation of the courtesy which had invariably been shown us during our stay in his city; we also sent rolls of silk, as small souvenirs of Japan, to the captain of the "Alacrity" and the manager of the hotel at which we had stayed.

We sent one of our secretaries to enquire how Commodore Cunningham was after his recent accident. This veteran officer lost the sight of his right eye in the war with Mexico and now his left eye has been injured. To our relief we were informed that he was recovering from the effects of his unfortunate accident which it was at first feared would have more serious results.

#### **April 4th.**

Commodore Tattnall and Captain Taylor left the "Powhatan" to-day and proceeded to Panama by the first mail steamer. The Commodore intends to go straight to Washington to consult the Government regarding the reception of the Ambassadors. Captain Taylor proposes to wait for us at Panama and escort us to Washington. As Commodore Tattnall was leaving the "Powhatan," the officers and crew lined up on deck and gave him a hearty send-off, and a parting salute of fifteen guns was fired. Commodore Tattnall is one of the oldest officers in the American Navy and he distinguished himself in the Mexican war. His strength of character appears to inspire the officers and men under him with the greatest respect and confidence. In bidding farewell to this eminent officer we are conscious of a sense of deep gratitude to him for the great and untiring kindness which he has always shown us during our long voyage across the ocean,

and the remembrance of this friend will ever remain deeply impressed on our hearts.

#### **April 5th.**

A bright sun heralds the day of our departure from the Navy Yard. Early in the morning, Admiral Kimura came on board to bid us farewell. The "Kanrin" is still in dock undergoing repairs under the careful supervision of the American Naval Authorities and she will be fit for sea at the end of this month. We are sorry that her intention to go as our escort to Panama cannot be fulfilled. She will return to Japan as soon as her repairs are finished. Oh, our gallant little "Kanrin," good luck to you on your homeward voyage! You may feel proud that you are the first ship flying the flag of the Rising Sun, that ever crossed the broad Pacific. At noon the "Powhatan" weighed anchor, casting it again in front of the city.

#### **April 6th.**

Some of our party visited the Mint and saw the whole of the process of coin-making, from the gold bar to the last finishing touch. They were also shown the large stock of gold bars. It is said that not long ago very rich gold mines were discovered not far from San Francisco, and the production of these is so great that gold in the world's markets is falling in value.

#### **April 7th.**

In the morning the Mayor and several other gentlemen paid us a farewell call. At 5 p. m. the "Powhatan" unmoored and steamed to sea, receiving salutes of seventeen guns from the fort and from the warships in the harbour. We are now leaving this prosperous and beautiful city behind us, and we take with us



most pleasant recollections of our visit to San Francisco where we first set foot in America, and where we obtained our first experience of American life. There has been so much that is strange to us that we are somewhat overwhelmed with the novelty of the life unfolded before us.

**April 20th.**

We have already been two weeks at sea, steaming along the American coast southwards from San Francisco. The weather is daily becoming warmer and the sea is calm. We spend most of our time under an awning on deck, as it is now uncomfortably hot below. There is nothing to break the monotony of the view of sky and sea except a few birds which are occasionally to be seen floating leisurely on the oily water. Captain Pearson has just imparted the welcome news that we shall be at Panama in two or three days, and he advises us to get our luggage and all our belongings ready.

**April 24th.**

At 6.30 a. m. the "Powhatan" entered the port of Panama, having done the 3472 miles from San Francisco in sixteen days. Two American ships are at anchor in the port; one, U. S. S. "Lancaster," the other the mail steamer which brought Commodore Tattnall from San Francisco. The Commodore and the Captain of the "Lancaster" came this morning to welcome us. The luggage and everything belonging to our party was taken on shore this afternoon. Later in the day the sky suddenly became black.

**April 25th.**

At six o'clock this morning Captain Gardner of U. S. S.

"Roanoke" and Captain Taylor came in a steam launch to take our party ashore. The "Roanoke" is to convey us from Aspinwall to Washington. When we were ready to leave the ship, Captain Pearson and all the officers appeared on deck to say good-bye, and hearty farewells and warm hand-shakes were exchanged. Parting from these recently made friends caused my thoughts to revert to the many days we had spent together at sea; we have every reason to be most grateful to them for their kindness, which made the long voyage—our first voyage abroad—one of comfort and ease. A salute of seventeen guns from the "Powhatan" and one from the "Lancaster" thundered over the quiet waters, as our launches left the dear old "Powhatan." On reaching the landing stage we went at once to the railway station, as we were told that Panama, being only a small place, there was little worth seeing. We were at once shown to a train composed of eight carriages which had been specially fitted up for the Embassy. Some of the local officials and the English and French Consuls came with their families to greet us. We all now took our seats. The Ambassadorial carriage was the last one and was beautifully decorated inside. This was our first experience of railway travelling, about which we had heard so much, and we eagerly awaited the time of departure. Presently the train began to move forward, rolling along two lines of iron. As the speed increases, the shaking of the cars becomes excessive and the noise is so great that we cannot hear ourselves speak, and the train goes so quickly that it is almost impossible to form an idea of the country immediately around us; it is like riding on a galloping horse. After an hour's run, our train stopped at a station, but started again in a few minutes. When I looked out

of the window I could see neither cultivated land nor forest. Rolling plains and low hills stretch from the Pacific to the Atlantic coasts. Little of the luxuriant vegetation peculiar to the tropics, is to be seen here. The Isthmus of Panama is believed to be one of the most unhealthy parts of the world. The poisonous damp air, with intense heat, make the place a hotbed for dangerous diseases. We have just passed a fair-sized village half-way between Panama and Aspinwall, where there is a station. Trains usually stop here but ours did not do so.

We arrived at Aspinwall at 11 a. m. having done the  $47\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Panama in three hours. What marvellous speed ! We are told that the Isthmus of Panama belongs to Spain and that the United States bought the stretch of land required for the railroad which was completed three years ago at a cost of seven million dollars. This poor, unhealthy piece of ground thus became a link of communication between the two oceans, the Pacific and the Atlantic. We were taken straight to the harbour where the "Roanoke" was waiting for us. She will be our home for the next few weeks, that is, until we reach Washington. The ship's band began to play as we stepped on deck. We were received by Commodore McCluney and Captain Gardner, and were conducted to our new quarters. Captain Taylor is on board and we were most grateful to him for his untiring care and for the kind attentions which have attended us even to the Atlantic Ocean. U.S.S. "Roanoke" is a frigate of 3400 tons displacement, 317 feet long and 54 feet broad. She carries 52 guns of different calibres and 540 officers and crew. She was built in 1855 and is Commodore McCluney's flag-ship. The Commodore is a dignified man and a fine specimen of an officer of high rank.

We were agreeably surprised when he told us that he was the captain of our dear old "Powhatan" when Commodore Perry, with his large fleet, visited Japan six years ago. Captain Gardner is most open-hearted and friendly. Among other officers, we met Captain Adams who had also been to Japan on Commodore Perry's staff. He is now captain of a guard ship stationed in this port.

**April 26th.**

At 9 a. m. the "Roanoke" weighed anchor. At 3 p. m. she cast anchor at Porto Bello to take in a supply of fresh water. This is a very small place with but few houses, at the foot of a hill densely covered with brush, where good fresh water flows from between the rocks. There are many monkeys in the brush. One was brought on board as a pet for the crew. He is black-faced and his long tail is very useful to him, as he can hang himself up by it, and thus have his four feet at liberty. This is a great advantage to him in his forest home. This little animal is one of nature's masterpieces. When we had a sufficient supply of water, we left Porto Bello and put out to sea.

**May 3rd.**

We sighted Cuba yesterday afternoon, and this morning we are still running along the western coast, with its long range of rolling hills close to the sea, clearly visible. Of the many island possessions of Spain that are scattered all over the world, Cuba is the richest. Her great natural resources, such as sugar, tobacco and coffee are said to enrich Spain enormously, and 30,000 Spanish troops now guard this treasure-island.

**May 5th.**

This afternoon we witnessed a pathetic scene, the funeral of

two sailors. The bodies, each wrapped in canvas and weighed with shot, were brought on deck to be buried in the sea. We are told that it is a rule in the American Navy that the bodies of all officers, up to the rank of captain, who die at sea, are taken to the nearest port for funeral, and that in the case of a commodore the body is enclosed in a glass case, and, if possible, taken to his home; an ordinary sailor is always buried at sea. It was sad to see the two bodies dropped from the ship's side into the unknown depths of the sea. The funeral of these two unfortunate men was a new experience for us and we were somewhat surprised to find that not only were all the officers present, but that the Commodore himself attended. An officer of so high a rank is never seen at the funeral of a simple soldier at home. America has no class distinctions, so there is not so much difference between the treatment of the higher and of the lower classes as there is with us. Sincerity and friendship seem to be the ruling characteristics of the American people.

#### **May 9th,**

After having spent two weeks at sea, we arrived at seven o'clock this evening, at the entrance to New York Bay and dropped anchor in an open port called Sandy Hook at the southern end of the peninsular that juts out into the Bay. A pilot, who came on board immediately we arrived in port, brought instructions from the President to Commodore McCluney to take the ship directly to Washington. This has caused some disappointment to the officers and crew. Most of them come from New York, and they have been at sea for a long time, so it is no wonder that they and their families are greatly disap-

pointed. Captain Taylor left the ship this evening to go to Washington by land, in order to arrange for a steam launch to meet us at Hampton Roads, where we are to leave the "Roanoke" and proceed to Washington.

#### **May 12th.**

We sailed from Sandy Hook at noon yesterday and although the ship followed the line of the coast, no sign of land was to be seen. Several ships, however, passed us. At 5 p. m. the "Roanoke" arrived at Hampton Roads. This is our last port before Washington. How thankful we are that we have safely reached this last stage of our journey, after being over three months at sea and after travelling 12,099 miles since we left Yokohama. In the evening Commodore McCluney drank our healths in champagne and congratulated us on the safe arrival of the Embassy at the gates of Washington. On behalf of the whole party, we presented the Commodore with a long sword blade, and the Captain with a short one. We also gave each of the other officers some lacquer ware as a trifling token of our appreciation. The Commodore was especially pleased with his sword, which he says is made of the finest steel in the world.

#### **May 13th.**

While we were viewing the land and sea from the deck this morning, a small steamer about 180 feet long approached us, churning the water with her paddles and flying the Japanese flag at her bows and the Stars and Stripes at her stern. She had a band of red-coated men on board. When she had come alongside, a few officers came on deck and Captain Taylor then introduced us to Captain Dupont, Captain Lee and Lieutenant Porter.

These officers were appointed by the President to form a committee for the reception of the Japanese Embassy, as they were in Japan six years ago with the fleet under the command of Commodore Perry. Captain Dupont, on behalf of the President of the United States of America welcomed us to America, and another gentleman, Mr. Ledyard of the State Department, on behalf of the Secretary of State, congratulated us on our safe arrival. Mr. Portman was then introduced as interpreter to the Embassy; he also, we learnt, had been in Japan with Commodore Perry, as interpreter. The commanding officer of the fort and several of his subordinates were also introduced to us, and we accepted his invitation to visit the fort on our way to Washington. As the time had now come for us to leave the "Roanoke," we again thanked the Commodore for the trouble he had taken and exchanged hearty farewells with him and his officers. Just as we were leaving the ship, a parting salute of seventeen guns burst upon the soft air of the quiet spring morning, and the sailors manned the yards of every mast and cheered us heartily, thus doing what we learnt was the highest honour that can be shown to anyone leaving a warship. As soon as we had been transferred to our new steamer, the "Philadelphia," our party was invited to a mid-day meal in the spacious saloon. The tables were beautifully decorated with magnificent flowers and with every description of silver and glass. At 3 p. m. when the meal was over, we began to steam from the port of Hampton Roads. After a run of three or four miles, we reached the fort which is said to be one of the strongest in the United States. We were shown all over it. It is very like our own newly built fort at Hakodate. All the guns we saw were very well kept.

The circumference of the fort is about two miles and it is built in the sea. During our tour, we met several of the officers' wives who showed their friendliness by presenting us with the most beautiful flowers. Darkness was beginning to fall when we returned to the ship. We have 160 miles to run before morning, when we expect to reach Washington.

#### **May 14th.**

At 10 o'clock this morning we stopped for a short time at a small place called Indiana, on the right bank of the River Potomac, and there we received a fresh supply of provisions. There has been little change in the scenery since early this morning. The land is flat and well wooded, and as we approach the capital, the river becomes narrower. Several small steamers passed us, their decks crowded with passengers. We had a good view of the house where George Washington spent the latter part of his life. It stands on a hill and is shaded by trees. We also saw his tomb. It is said that all who pass it take off their hats to pay homage to the Father of the nation. A wonderful trait this is in a nation free from all class distinctions and formalities ! The capital now came in view. It is really a picturesque sight ; the tall tower of congress in the distance, the flags flying from the tops of the buildings, just visible through the dull mist. The Navy Yard was reached at noon and we went ashore with Captain Dupont. Commodore Buchanan, who is one of the committee for the reception of the Embassy, met us. We understand that he also was in Japan on Commodore Perry's staff. Several gentlemen were presented to us by Captain Dupont, and, on behalf of their fellow citizens, gave us a hearty welcome to their city. We



were then escorted to the carriages waiting for us at some distance from the landing stage. We had difficulty in reaching them owing to the immense crowd that gathered around us. Shimmi, Captain Dupont, and I seated ourselves in the first carriage which was drawn by four splendid horses, and the rest of the party followed. The long line of carriages was headed by a band, followed by two battalions of soldiers, and two more battalions brought up the rear. As the procession began slowly to advance, bells in all directions were rung as a sign of welcome to the Embassy. We were amazed at the crowds of people that packed the streets; it was a surging sea of faces. Every window was full and there were spectators even on the roofs of the houses. Our procession went slowly and every now and then a halt was made in order to give all the thousands of eager spectators a chance of having a good look at their unusual visitors. Occasionally flowers were showered on us from the windows and Captain Dupont kindly explained that the flowers came from ladies. This is said to be the highest expression of kindness on the part of the fair sex. How lucky we are! They tell us that the city of Washington has never before been the scene of such excitement. At first we thought that the excessive interest displayed was merely assumed out of compliment to us, but subsequent experience led us to believe that it was genuine. The reason probably is that the Americans had never seen any Japanese, as we had closed our doors on the rest of the world and had forbidden every Japanese to leave his country. We are really the first of our nation to reach this side of the world. None of the Ambassadors from Europe excite any curiosity here, as they are almost the same in manners and customs as the Americans. Moreover, the latter

themselves were once Europeans, whereas we belong to an entirely different civilisation, the Government, manners and customs of which widely differ from those of America. We can quite understand how great the interest and curiosity aroused by our party must be. After driving for miles through the ever-increasing crowds we finally reached the large four-storied Hotel Willard, which had been specially engaged for the Ambassadors and their suite. The rooms are large and comfortable. Immediately after our arrival we wrote to General Lewis Cass, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announcing our safe arrival and asking him to appoint a day and hour for an interview. In the evening a dinner was given to the party by Captain Dupont, in the large dining room of the hotel.

#### **May 15th.**

I awoke refreshed after a really good sleep, my first on terra firma since leaving San Francisco. Although sea life is not without its charm—with its pure fresh air, its grand expanse of blue water, its freedom from worldly cares—still, after all, we feel more at home on the solid earth. We spent the whole day in the hotel, resting. The Vice President of the United States and some other high functionaries called on us. The Vice President informed us that Congress had decided to receive the Japanese Ambassadors as its guests. Highly appreciating this great hospitality, we accepted the invitation and promised to avail ourselves of it when a day suitable to all parties could be arranged.

#### **May 16th.**

Captain Dupont suggested that when we called on the

Secretary of State to-day, we should be accompanied only by a small suite. We acted on his suggestion. At noon we left the hotel and drove with Captain Dupont to the State Department. We alighted at the entrance of a large stone building and were immediately conducted to the official quarters of the Secretary of State. We were presented to Secretary Cass to whom we explained the object of our mission and we handed him a note addressed to him by our Minister for Foreign Affairs. We then expressed our hearty appreciation of the kindness of the United States Government in placing two warships at our disposal as well as our gratification at the cordial reception accorded to us by the American Authorities at all the places at which we had stopped on our way to the American metropolis. We moreover thanked him for the kind assistance rendered by the United States Naval Authorities in repairing the "Kanrin" at Mare Island, San Francisco. The Secretary of State replied that not only was the visit of our first Embassy to the United States of America a great pleasure to the President, but that the whole nation joined him in welcoming the Ambassadors. Secretary Cass is a tall man of mature age—nearly seventy—with a genial manner. Although this was our first interview with him, his conversation was as easy, as friendly, as free from the slightest formality, as if we had merely come from a neighbouring town and had been friends for years. We also met Mr. Ledyard and a few other State Department officials. Secretary Cass has fixed tomorrow for our presentation to the President. When we returned to the hotel we asked Captain Dupont to give us an idea of the customary etiquette and ceremony to be observed on being presented to the President. To our surprise he declared that no

such thing existed at the President's Court, and that we might do as we pleased.

### **May 17th.**

The day appointed for our presentation to the President of the United States of America has at last come. Shimmi, I and Oguri wore the "Kariginu" court dress and the members of the suite were also in the full dress of their respective ranks. Our procession was a long and imposing one. Twenty men in grey uniform headed it, followed by a band of thirty musicians; then came a few mounted men and, next to them, some of our men bearing on their shoulders a despatch box tied with silken cords of different colours; then more of our men on foot. The Ambassadors' carriages, drawn by four horses, came next. Shimmi was in the first with Captain Dupont, I was with Captain Lee, and Oguri with Mr. Ledyard. In the others were our secretaries and interpreters. One of our men, holding a spear walked in front of each of the first carriages, and a number of our retainers followed each carriage. The band striking up was the signal for the procession to start. What immense crowds there were! The streets were like seas of human beings; the windows and balconies were thronged with people eager to get a glimpse of the procession. I could not help smiling at the wonder in their eyes, which reached a culminating point when they caught sight of our party wearing costumes that they had never seen before or even dreamt of. I might say that the whole procession seemed to the people of Washington to be a scene out of fairyland, as, indeed, their city appeared to us. It was however, not without a feeling of pride and satisfaction that we drove, in such grand

style, through the streets of the American metropolis, as the first Ambassadors that Japan had ever sent abroad, and that we witnessed the enthusiastic welcome accorded to us by the citizens. On reaching the President's house, we were at once ushered into a large oval shaped room, beautifully furnished, with a handsome carpet and curtains of considerable value. Large mirrors were on the walls, and tables of various sizes on which a quantity of lacquer ware goods and many other Japanese articles were tastefully displayed, were placed about the room. We were told that all the Japanese articles were presents to Commodore Perry from our Sovereign. Before long, Secretary Cass came in and greeted us, accompanied by Captains Dupont and Lee. Mr. Ledyard and we were then conducted by Secretary Cass to the Audience room. Naruse, one of the Secretaries of the Embassy, following us with the box of letters and credentials. When we entered, we found President Buchanan standing in the centre of the room, surrounded by a large number of military officers and civilians. Approaching him, we made an obeisance and Shimmi delivered a short address which was translated into Dutch by Namura, and we presented the letter and our credentials which the President afterwards handed to Secretary Cass. We then returned to the room we had previously been in.

We told Captain Dupont that the ceremony of presenting credentials according to our customs, was over ; we were thereupon again conducted to the Audience room, and, as we came up to the President, he gave his hand to each of us and delivered the following address :

“ I give you a cordial welcome as Representatives of

“ His Imperial Majesty, the Tycoon of Japan to the American  
“ Government. We are all much gratified that the first  
“ Embassy which your great Empire has accredited to any  
“ foreign power, has been sent to the United States. I trust  
“ that this will be the harbinger of perpetual peace and friend-  
“ ship between the two nations. The treaty of Commerce  
“ whose ratification you are about to exchange with the Sec-  
“ retary of State, cannot fail to be productive of benefit, both  
“ to the people of Japan and of the United States. I can say  
“ for myself, and promise for my successors, that it shall be  
“ carried into execution in a faithful and friendly spirit, so as  
“ to secure to both countries all the advantages they may just-  
“ ly expect from the happy auspices under which it has been  
“ negotiated and ratified. I rejoice that you have been pleased  
“ with the treatment you have received on board of our vessel of  
“ war on your passage to this country. You shall return in the  
“ same manner to your native land, under the protection of the  
“ American flag. Meanwhile, during your residence among  
“ us, which I hope will be sufficiently prolonged to enable you  
“ to visit the different portions of our country, we shall be  
“ happy to extend to you all the hospitality and kindness  
“ justly due to the great and friendly Sovereign whom you so  
“ worthily represent.”

At the conclusion of this address, a copy of which was handed to Shimmi, several cabinet Ministers came forward and shook hands with us. We then withdrew and returned to the hotel in the order in which we had come. Although this memorable day has been a succession of new experiences for us, we are glad that it has come to a satisfactory conclusion. President

Buchanan is a man of over seventy years of age, with a genial and dignified manner. He, like the cabinet ministers and the ordinary civilians, wore a plain black coat. Except in the case of military and naval officers, there appears to be no uniform or special dress to denote official rank. The President, I understand, is only the head of the Government for four years, and he is elected by the people. Any man, from any class, may become President. When his term of office expires, he retires again into private life. Contrary to what we had imagined, he does not own a princely castle or stately palace in which he resides. The house he lives in is not his own; it is the property of the State, and he only occupies it while he is President. Captain Dupont suggested that we should make a round of calls on the ministers of foreign countries, and he told us that, according to international etiquette, the new-comer should pay the first visit. We of course did not wish to disregard this recognized social law, so we decided to call on all the ministers save those who represent countries with which we have as yet no treaties. At 4 p. m. we drove from the hotel and left our cards at the various legations. The procedure was a very simple one. The driver took in our cards while we remained in the carriage. At the English and Dutch legations, however, we alighted and saw the respective ministers and their families.

#### **May 18th.**

We received calls this morning from the English and Dutch ministers and from the others whom we had visited yesterday. We entrusted Captain Dupont with a number of presents sent by our Sovereign to the President and to the Secretary of State.

They were, however, placed in a room in the hotel for a few days, for public inspection. Among other things, there were several screens ; these seemed to attract the most attention. Later on, we were told that any present sent to the President in his official capacity, or to any public official, is considered public property and is sent to the museum. This does not apply to presents sent to the wives of officials. We had previously received an invitation for to-night from Secretary Cass. It is not our custom to attend any public function in the evening and we have hitherto refused such invitations, but as this State reception is specially given in our honour by the Prime Minister, we did not like to decline. We therefore waived our objection and accepted. This was the first time we had been out in the streets at night. Every street is well lighted with gas lamps, so that it is not necessary to carry a lantern. On reaching Secretary Cass' house we found the whole place filled with men and women, and all the rooms brilliantly illuminated and as bright as day. Passing through the crowd, we reached a room where Secretary Cass and the members of his family received us in a most cordial manner. These greetings were hardly over when we found that we were expected to shake hands with everybody around us. As we could not understand what was said, all we could do was to exchange smiles. We were then taken to an adjoining room with a table in the centre on which there was the flag of the Rising Sun crossing that of the Stars and Stripes. After dinner, at which there were various sorts of wines, we were ushered into another very large room the floor of which was of smooth boards and had no carpet. Immediately after we were seated, the music commenced and an officer in uniform with one arm round a lady's



waist and the other hand holding one of hers, started moving round the room on his toes, many others following his example. Upon enquiring, we were told that this was a "dance." As I watched the various movements of the dancers, I could not help smiling at the way in which the very large skirts, called crinoline, which the ladies wore, increased in volume until they became of enormous proportions when the dancers attained their top speed. When one dance is over, the dancers go to the tables for drink and light refreshment and then commence another dance. This continues until midnight. As for us, we had never seen or imagined anything like it before. It was, of course, with no small wonder that we witnessed this extraordinary sight of men and bareshouldered women hopping round the floor, arm in arm, and our wonder at the strange performance became so great that we began to doubt whether we were not on another planet. I need not say that we did not remain until midnight, but, after a time, rose, thanked our hospitable host for the great entertainment, and returned to the hotel. We are told that all, young and old, rich and poor, all classes of people, in this country, are fond of the pastime of dancing. It seems very funny indeed to us, as dancing in our country is done by professional girls only and is not at all a man's pastime.

#### **May 18th.**

The Commandant of the Navy Yard called on us this morning. He brought with him a number of rifles and pistols of the latest make to show us, and he explained the points in their favour compared with those of older pattern. We were much interested in them and greatly admired their ingenious mechanism and fine workmanship.

We had an invitation from President Buchanan for this afternoon and Captain Dupont told us that it would be a musical entertainment. At 4 o'clock, escorted by Captain Dupont, we drove to the President's house. On arriving, we found everything so quiet that we began to wonder if we really had been invited. We passed through several large rooms without seeing anyone, among them was that in which we had our audience with the President two days ago. It was, however, without its carpet and beautiful ornaments and looked more like an unfurnished room. Finally we reached a wide balcony facing the garden in which there is a large lawn with a fountain in the centre. A band of red-coated men had just begun to play there. Here we found the President and his three nieces, and were greeted by them. After a short time, the President joined the crowd on the lawn and spoke to some of his friends. While he was there, one of his nieces handed me an opera glass and asked me if I could pick out the President from the crowd of some thousands on the lawn. I tried to do so, but in vain. It is no easy matter to find a particular person among such an enormous number, all wearing the same style of dress. Presently the President returned and joined us in conversation. His kind amiable manner makes his visitors feel entirely at their ease. We were almost always surrounded by ladies who were very much interested in our costumes and swords and they kept us busy answering their question. After a while, we thanked the President, took leave of him and returned to our hotel. Not quite understanding what was meant by the President's invitation for to-day, we asked Captain Dupont to explain it and he told us that, as those who had been present in the Audience room on the day of our presentation were exclusively

officials occupying high government positions, and as the Japanese Ambassadors were the guests of the nation, the President had this time invited all the principal people in Washington to meet and welcome the first Embassy that Japan had ever sent to the United States of America, thus recognizing the fact that we were not his guests alone, but the guests of the nation as a whole.

#### **May 21st.**

We went to the Patent Office this afternoon. It is a large marble building. We saw there historical paintings of the American revolutionary war under the leadership of Washington, and many other interesting pictures. There was also a large collection of all kinds of machinery, from the rude simple agricultural implement to the large and exquisite steam engine. Not only American machinery was on view, but all sorts of other machines were represented. What most attracted our attention, among the various exhibits, was a number of machines worked by steam power. We wished to have further particulars about them and should have liked to remain longer in order to study these interesting inventions, but whenever we stopped we were immediately besieged by the large crowd that followed us. We were just as much objects of interest to them as the exhibits were to us. This unexpected wall of admirers obliged us to give up all hope of closely examining the machinery and we had to hasten our departure.

#### **May 22nd.**

It had been arranged that the exchange of the copies of the Treaty of Commerce and Friendship, recently drawn up between

the two countries, was to take place to-day. At noon, we accordingly drove to the Secretary of State's Office. The original of the United States treaty was in English and bore the seals and signature of President Buchanan, and our copy bore those of our Tycoon and of his Minister for Foreign Affairs. Secretary Cass signed the American copy of the Treaty and stamped a seal on it, and Shimmi, Oguri and I did the same with the Japanese copy, each copy having a Dutch translation attached to it. The exchange of the treaty was made in a very simple manner, without any imposing ceremony. Besides ourselves, there were only a few officials present.

At 5 o'clock we drove to the large, handsome residence of the Dutch Minister and met every member of his family. He is, we understand, a son-in-law of Secretary Cass, who was also one of the party. We were much pleased and gratified at being guests of the Minister representing Holland, which country has for the last hundred years been the only one with which we have had commercial relations. The minister is a man of kind and polished manners and he told those present, with pride, that Holland had been the only friend that Japan had trusted for over two hundred years. After dinner, we were taken into the garden where many beautiful flowers blossomed, and here we seated ourselves in the shade of a tree and had a cup of coffee. As we were enjoying ourselves in this cozy manner, Secretary Cass joined us and, affectionately patting the Dutch Minister on the shoulder, told us with a smile that that gentleman had come from Holland to rob him of his dearest daughter. After spending a very pleasant afternoon in this friendly home, we took our leave and drove back to the hotel.

**May 23rd.**

We visited Congress at noon to-day. It is a large building of white marble with a high tower in the centre. Washington's portrait and those of several of the nation's other leaders, hang on the wall facing the entrance. We were at once shown to a gallery from which we could look down on the large hall where affairs of State were being discussed by several hundred representatives assembled from all parts of the country. The members' seats are arranged in a semicircle, the President's being in front, on an elevated platform. As we entered, a member was making a speech at the top of his voice. When he sat down, another stood up and talked in an excited manner. There was no end to the speakers. One after another they rose, some speaking quietly, and some wildly brandishing their arms as if they had lost their tempers. Our impression was that some important State affairs were under discussion, but of course we did not understand a single word, and we did not ask what was going on, as we were afraid that it would not be the correct thing to enquire into the state affairs of another nation.

In the evening we were invited to an entertainment, given in the hotel by young boys and girls of from seven to fifteen years of age. They were all very smartly dressed. Their performance was a very effective and amusing one. Their evolutions, under the direction of a teacher throughout the evening, were very graceful. They moved easily and smartly, keeping time with the music. The whole thing appeared to us to be a sort of infantry drill, combined with graceful dancing. Every time a part of the performance was over, the spectators clapped their hands loudly, to express their admiration. It was indeed diverting to see

hundreds of bright boys and girls marching in all directions and then coming together again with military precision. At one time the girls did what seemed to us to be a kind of dance with sticks.\* We were told that this kind of game has only recently been introduced. I think that this kind of dance is much nicer than that distasteful dancing of men and women. After this very charming entertainment was over, we were introduced to over a hundred guests who were staying in the hotel.

#### **May 24th.**

We went this morning to the State Department to consult Secretary Cass about some important business relating to the two countries. At 2 p. m. we drove to the Navy Yard to inspect the workshop there. As we entered the gate, a salute was fired and the guard of honour formed up. At the side of the gate there was a group of naval bandsmen. We were received by Commodore Buchanan and taken over all the different departments of the Yard. What a marvellous and interesting place it is! From the casting of the steel, to the final details of the most elaborate weapons, everything struck us with wonder and admiration. We saw a howitzer being cast, and an enormous steam hammer worked by steam as easily as one handles a stick. A cutting machine cut a piece of thick iron plate as easily as a pair of scissors cuts a piece of paper. A huge anchor was cut from a large block of steel and finished while we watched. The rapidity with which shells for guns were manufactured, the amount of steam utilised as driving power all over the works, the ingenuity of the various machines—all this is beyond the power of my pen to describe. Great was

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Bar-bell drill.

our wonder as we went from one machine to another, watching the work done from start to finish. I was filled with envy and with an ardent desire to see works such as this, established in my own country. When this extremely interesting and instructive visit was over, Commodore Buchanan took us to his house and we were introduced to his wife and children. Commodore Buchanan was one of Commodore Perry's staff when his fleet visited Japan; he told us all about his impressions of Japan. We were much interested to hear a stranger's views of our country. After healths had been drunk in several glasses of wine, we returned to the hotel.

#### **May 25th.**

This was the day that had been fixed for President Buchanan's dinner. At 4 p.m. we drove to the President's house and were received by him and his nieces in the room in which we had our first audience. There were already other ladies and gentlemen there. In a little while Captain Dupont told us that the President requested each of us to take a lady from the drawing room to the dining room. This, we are told, is the usual custom in America at formal dinner parties. Good Captain Dupont kindly helped us in this trying performance, as he knew that it was an unfamiliar one for us, and the procession started shortly afterwards. Shimmi took one of the President's nieces, whose name is Helen, in to dinner. Oguri and I each took in the wife of a Minister of State and the other members of our party were each accompanied by a lady. Having successfully accomplished what was required of us in observance of this strange custom, we entered the dining room and took our seats. The room is about sixty feet long by thirty feet wide. At both ends of the large

central table there were golden vases filled with fresh flowers of beautiful colours. A pot, containing a dwarf grape vine with bunches of ripe fruit, was among the table ornaments and there were several gold and silver bowls full of all sorts of sweetmeats and fruits, tastefully arranged. The President sat at the center and one of his nieces sat opposite to him, Shimmi on her right and I on her left. Oguri was on the President's right and the remaining members of our party sat among the other guests. There were about twenty or thirty ladies and gentlemen at table. We made our two interpreters stand close behind us to enable us to converse. The President's niece who sat next to me is a beautiful young lady and very entertaining. She supervised everything at the table during the dinner and acted as mistress of the ceremonies. Had one not know who she was, one would have taken her for the Queen of Beauty, so great was her dignity and so commanding her manners; and her uncle might have been taken for her Prime Minister. This lady, whom I might call the "Ministress of the Table" besides attending to other things, took it upon herself to entertain the guests near her. Among the numerous questions she asked were some of a delicate nature such as: what was the number of our Court ladies; how were they dressed; how did Japanese ladies dress their hair; how did we like American women compared with the Japanese. Her questions, although quite in accordance with American custom, with which I am quite unfamiliar, frequently somewhat disconcerted me. To add to my embarrassment, dish after dish of food that was strange to me was set before me; moreover, I hardly knew how to eat. I had to keep one eye fixed on my neighbour's hands and then awkwardly follow her example. Towards the



end of the dinner a glass bowl of water was placed before each guest. Carefully watching the others, I found that the water was for washing our fingers in, and I acted accordingly. I could scarcely refrain from laughing on seeing the look of surprise on our Chief Secretary Morita's face, when, after boldly drinking the water, he realised what it was for, and he had not a drop left to rinse his fingers with ! When this interesting dinner was over, we returned to the room from which we had come and found that some of our gifts to the President were exhibited there. Of the numerous articles, a pair of screens made of bamboo threads interested the visitors most. They are apparently quite a novelty here, for they say that the bamboo does not grow in America. Before leaving, we expressed our hearty thanks to the President for the honour he had done us, and we presented each of his three nieces with two rolls of fine silk, as a little souvenir of the land of the Far East.

#### **May 26th.**

We received hundreds of visitors at the hotel this afternoon ; among them, several members of Congress, with their families. Ever since we were presented to the President, we have had to receive hundreds of men and women daily. At first, we imagined that it would only be the principal officials of the Government and the City of Washington who would visit us, but we have already had very many other visitors and still they come in ever increasing numbers. We spoke to Captain Dupont about it and he said that the visitors came with their families from country towns to see us, often travelling some hundreds of miles by rail. He added that if we found it troublesome to receive so many every day, he

would make arrangements to limit the number. We, however, replied that, as we were the guests of the nation, we should be pleased to see them whenever we could spare the time. The only thing we objected to was being presented with gifts, such as flowers, card cases, etc., which some of them kindly brought us, because we had not a sufficient number of articles from Japan with us to enable us to reciprocate. He promised to let them know that we preferred not to accept anything of the kind.

We sent a set of Japanese porcelain articles to Commodore Buchanan as a small token of our appreciation of his kindness in showing us over the Navy Yard.

**May 27th (SUNDAY).**

All the offices and shops are closed. As we had no visitors to-day and had nowhere to go, we remained quietly indoors, and looked at the streets from the hotel windows. There were few people to be seen and those few were on their way to the Churches. I listened in vain for the song of the cuckoo from the shady green trees in front of my window. Washington is in about the same latitude as Yedo, but the chilly breezes remind me more of April at home.

**May 28th.**

We have been busy the whole day, as usual, receiving innumerable visitors, and our two interpreters are altogether inadequate for such large numbers. In many cases a hand shake had to stand for everything.

Towards evening we accompanied Captain Dupont to the Observatory. It is some distance off and is surrounded by beautiful shady trees. The Director lives in a house standing at

the corner of a square enclosure. He took us over all the rooms of the observatory and explained all about the different kinds of lenses and instruments. We saw a hundred chronometers which kept very exact time. They say that whenever a warship goes to sea, she takes with her a chronometer which has been tested here for a long time, and when she returns from her voyage it has to be given back to the observatory. On the third floor we were shown a large telescope standing on a firm stone foundation which rises from the ground through all the floors. Sitting at one end of the telescope one can easily move the whole of it in any direction one likes. Its diameter at the lower end is a little over two feet. We looked through it at the moon and were astonished to find its surface as rough and irregular as that of the earth. What are assumed to be mountains, plains and rivers bear names given them by the scholars of the observatory. We also looked at Jupiter, Saturn and other remote planets in the solar system, and were greatly impressed by all the accurate mechanical instruments which bring one, I might almost say, in touch with the grand and silent world of the heavens. I wish that some of our young men could come over and see all these instructive investigations into the various phenomena of heaven and earth.

#### **May 29th.**

In the morning two officials from the Treasury Department called to consult us on business relating to the treaty between the two nations. Captain Dupont and Mr. Ledyard of the State Department were present.

Shimmi and Oguri went in the late afternoon to a dinner party given by a Senator whose name has escaped my memory.

We had at first declined, as we thought it better not to accept invitations of a private nature, but on hearing that he was a son-in-law of Commodore Perry, and on the invitation being repeated, we yielded and accepted. As I, however, was indisposed, I did not go but rested in the hotel.

#### **May 30th.**

This morning we again had an interview with the gentlemen from the Treasury Department, and, with Captain Dupont and Mr. Ledyard, we discussed the subject of our conversation of yesterday. In the afternoon an officer from the Navy Yard called and gave us some very interesting and, at the same time, very instructive information on naval matters. The Prussian Minister sent one of his Secretaries to bring us presents of various articles made in Prussia.

#### **May 31st.**

We went to an office where all kinds of maps are made. We were most struck with the maps for use in navigation. We also saw several map-making machines. We spent two hours there. Before we left several maps were given us.

#### **June 1st.**

In the course of our last conversation with the President, he suggested that we should visit other cities before we left America. We imagined, at the time, that his suggestion meant little more than a compliment; but, rather to our surprise, Captain Dupont and Mr. Ledyard, who came to-day, told us that the President earnestly desires us to see different cities during our stay in this country. We thanked him for his kind proposal but politely

declined to comply with his wish. The two gentlemen, on hearing our answer, expressed their regret at our decision, saying that none of the foreign Ambassadors visiting America, miss a chance of going all over the country, and they are always most pleased with their visits to the interesting cities. We explained that we had come to America merely for the exchange of the Treaty and not on a pleasure trip. As we are the first Ambassadors that Japan has ever sent abroad, our Government and people are anxiously awaiting our early return and we do not wish to waste any time, but desire to set out on our homeward journey at the earliest possible moment. These two good friends saw the President and told him of our wish to return. He was quite disappointed and insisted that we really must see a few of the larger cities on our way to New York where a warship would be ready in a month's time. We learnt afterwards that many of the cities and large towns were most desirous that we should visit them. We were, however, afraid that once we began we should have to go visiting all over the country.

### **June 2nd.**

Captain Porter took us this afternoon to a museum called the Smithsonian Institution, where every possible sort of subject may be studied. The Director met us at the door and took us all over the building. In the first room the windows of which were all shaded, several striking experiments were made with electricity. We next entered a large room containing rows of seats facing a platform from which learned men deliver lectures. Another room was hung with portraits of the world's most famous scholars and with historical paintings. On the wall were also

hung specimens of the hair of the successive Presidents. What a disgusting custom to exhibit the hair of dead men in a public place!\*

There were several thousand stuffed animals and birds from all parts of the world, as well as insects in glass cases, and rare species of snakes coiled in glass jars filled with alcohol. For our benefit a live alligator was taken from his tank. He was about four feet long. It was rather fun to see him try to bite the stick with which the attendant tapped him on the head. We also saw some petrified human bodies (mummies) as hard as a rock. They say that they are over a thousand years old. Poor, once-proud human beings! Here they lie, side by side with birds and animals, publicly exhibited as objects of curiosity, in the name of science! After we had been over every room in the Institute, we were taken to a house in which the Director lives and which stands in one corner of a garden. We were introduced to his wife and children and were presented with several copies of a book giving a detailed description of the Institute.

We were to-day requested to send one of our subordinates to the President to show how the Japanese saddle, which we had given him, should be put on the horse. Naruse, one of our secretaries, went with a servant. At the request of the President, Naruse, using one of our saddles, rode on a horse. The President and his nieces were very much pleased with the performance. It is the custom in this country for women to ride, as well as men. We saw them riding in the streets. They do not ride astride, like men, but sit sideways, beautifully balanced, with one leg over the pommel of the saddle.

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\* They are really the wigs then worn as a part of the President's costume.

**June 3rd.**

Shimmi and Oguri rode into the country on horses fitted with Japanese saddles, and enjoyed the ride very much. The horses were large and high bred. Captains Dupont and Lee accompanied them, but I could not go as I was a victim to toothache.

Some of our secretaries and physicians paid a visit to the prison, hospital and reformatory school and they reported that the visit had greatly interested them. What they admired most was the admirable system on which the hospital and the school were managed. These institutions exist for the welfare of the nation, not only in the large cities, but also in small towns. Our country is, among other things, greatly in need of institutions arranged on the same systems as these.

**June 4th.**

Ever since our arrival at the American capital, we have frequently been asked by photographers to allow our photographs to be taken, but we have hitherto refused, as it is not the custom in our country. To-day, however, we had to submit, in deference to the President's wishes. He said that he desired to have a photograph of ourselves and our party. We therefore, for the first time, faced the photograph machine. Later on, the photographer sent us each a copy of the photograph.

**June 5th.**

We had a final interview with the President and expressed our warmest appreciation of his kindness to us and of the friendly reception given us by him and by the nation. The President assured us that it gave him much pleasure to know

that we were thoroughly satisfied with our visit and that we were leaving the city with pleasant impressions. He told us that U. S. S. "Niagara," one of the finest ships in the American Navy, will be placed at our disposal for the homeward voyage.

Accompanied by our suite, we then went to the State Department to bid farewell to Secretary Cass, the Secretary of State. We thanked him most heartily for all the kindness he had shown us from the first to the last day of our stay in Washington. Secretary Cass handed a silver medal to each of our secretaries and copper medals to the rest of our party. These medals are all of one pattern, the only difference being the metal of which they are made. He showed us a copy of the President's letter to our gracious Ruler and said that the original would be sent to Mr. Harris, the American Minister in Japan. We asked him if we could not take it with us, but he replied that it was the custom of the country that any letter written by the President to a Sovereign, should be sent to the American Minister accredited to the country of that Sovereign to whom he had to present it personally. We were then taken over the State Department Offices. In one of them the treaties and diplomatic documents relating to affairs with foreign countries, were carefully kept. There were two large volumes containing the official letters despatched by Mr. Harris, the American Minister in Japan. We also saw the Treasury and Naval Departments. To our great surprise, there was only a small number of officials in each Department. State business seems to be transacted in a very convenient and simple manner. On our way back to the hotel we left cards on



Secretary Cass at his private residence, and on the members of the corps diplomatique.

**June 6th.**

We wrote to Secretary Cass, requesting him to instruct the Captain of U. S. S. "Niagara" not to stay at the various ports any longer than was necessary for taking in coal and provisions. He replied assuring us that the "Niagara" would not stop at more than three ports on the journey to Japan and that she would leave each port at the earliest possible moment. We have sent our luggage and belongings to New York by sea.

**June 7th.**

Early this morning Mr. Ledyard called and we had a final consultation with him on official business. This young and able man occupies an important post as confidential Secretary to his aged father-in-law. On this, the eve of our departure from the American metropolis, we sent two rolls of silk and a box of porcelain ware which we had brought from home, to each of the following gentlemen: Captains Dupont, Porter and Lee, Mr. Ledyard and Mr. Portman the interpreter, as a small token of our high appreciation of their invariable kindness and attention to us during our stay in Washington. A number of officials came to bid us farewell, and to wish us a safe and pleasant journey home. This is our last day in Washington, and, mingled with the pleasure with which we look forward to returning home, is a sense of satisfaction at having so successfully performed our mission.

**June 8th.**

We left early in the morning, accompanied by Captain

Dupont, Captain Lee and Mr. Ledyard. Unlike the day of our arrival, when there was so much fuss and such a crowd, today everything was quiet. A train specially fitted up was waiting for us at the station: it consisted of four cars, one of which was placed at the disposal of the Ambassadors and was particularly beautiful. This was our second railway journey since our arrival at Panama. After running over a monotonous plain for about two hours, our train arrived at Baltimore where we alighted, and were received by the Mayor of that city and by other officials. We were then conducted to the carriages. There was a veritable sea of faces round the station. A band and three battalions of soldiers preceded our carriages. Our procession went slowly through the crowded streets. The windows also were full of spectators, as was the case when we arrived in Washington. We stopped before a large building which looked like a public office, and were conducted to a large hall upstairs, which was beautifully decorated with flowers and green leaves, and here the Mayor delivered a formal speech of welcome. This ceremony over, we re-entered our carriages and drove to an hotel which had been engaged for us. From our seats on a balcony on the second floor, we watched battalion after battalion of troops march past. They saluted us as they passed and we returned their salute. A group of soldiers fired a volley in our honour. Baltimore seems to be quite a prosperous town. Our hotel faces a large open space with a statue of George Washington in the centre. We were invited by the Mayor to dine with him at this hotel at 4 o'clock. A considerable number of citizens were present at the banquet. Towards the end of the dinner, the Mayor drank our healths and wished us a pleasant journey. We were afterwards

taken to the balcony on the third floor where an electrical machine, communicating with the fire brigade, was fitted up. The Mayor pressed a button and, in a minute or two, the fire brigade arrived with a fire engine drawn by horses. A practical illustration was given for our benefit, water being pumped up as high as the roofs of five-storied houses. The water poured down like heavy rain from the roofs to the ground. It was a novel and interesting sight, but rather wet for an entertainment! In the evening there was a display of fireworks, which was very good indeed. We found that, in the skill shown and in the variety of devices, the fireworks surpassed ours. The open space was packed with an immense crowd watching the display and unheeding the sparks that fell on their heads like a shower of fire.

### **June 9th.**

Even in these early summer days it is so chilly that we find our summer clothing quite inadequate. At 10 o'clock we drove to the station, escorted by a body of soldiers, and were met there by prominent citizens who had come to see us off. Soon after our train left the city, we entered a boundless plain, almost entirely uncultivated, save for a few patches here and there, and even there the vegetation appeared to be in poor condition. I wonder whether this is due to the want of proper cultivation or whether the land itself is barren. Farming does not seem to be a strong point in America. During the course of our journey, the train stopped at the brink of the Susquehanna River. Presently the train moved on and Captain Dupont told us that we were now on the water. We could see no bridge, so we could not make out what he meant. He then explained that our train had moved

on to rails on board a steam ferry boat. It slid off on to rails on the other bank without the least jar. What a wonderful feat ! Most of our party were quite unaware of this all the time. At 6 o'clock p. m. we arrived at a station in Philadelphia, after a run, since 10 o'clock that morning, of a hundred miles. We were met at the station by the Mayor and other prominent men. Our procession from the station was, as usual, a long and gay one, and the citizens were pleasurably impressed by it. At the head was a band playing lively airs, preceding a battalion of infantry. Then came the carriages containing our party and that of the Mayor and his suite, another battalion bringing up the rear. The long procession wended its way through the principal thoroughfares crowded with people. Our hotel was larger and much better furnished than the one in which we had stayed in Washington. Shortly after we arrived, we were shown into a spacious and beautiful dining room. We were all very hungry as we had only had a few slices of bread since morning. The manager of the hotel knew that we liked rice and proudly served it; but, how wonderful was the way in which it was cooked ! Fried in butter !! Butter is a form of diet to which we are unaccustomed and our stomachs refuse to accept it. So we politely requested that this dish should be removed. The next course, to our renewed disappointment, was rice cooked with sugar ! We finally gave up all hope of rice and turned to bread to appease our appetites. Japanese travellers abroad must find the food, which is everywhere entirely different from our own, a most serious drawback. It is not only that the cooking is so unlike ours, but the kind of food itself is altogether different. Among other things, beef and butter here form part

of the daily diet, whereas we never eat either the one or the other at home.

#### **June 10th.**

Philadelphia is not as large a port as New York nor has it as much foreign trade, but they say that it is the principal centre for the manufacture of all kinds of machinery. The streets are wider and the buildings finer than those of Washington and visitors are impressed by the fact that it is one of the most prosperous cities in the country. We see more and finer carriages here than we saw in the capital. We are told that there are many wealthy people living here. The population is said to be 130,000.

#### **June 13th.**

This troublesome toothache has kept me confined to my room for the last two days, which the other members of the party spent in sightseeing. They visited the Mint where coins are made, and devoted special attention to the monetary system, acquiring much valuable information for future use in our own country. Since our arrival we have, as usual, had many visitors, and today has been no exception.

#### **June 14th.**

Among the many presents we have received from manufacturers here, is an optical instrument containing reflecting surfaces which enables one to see coloured photographs with remarkable clearness. On looking through it, one sees the pictures as if one were looking at the objects or scenes themselves, so real and vivid is the impression conveyed. Nearly a hundred photographs on glass of scenes and life in this city were sent with the

instrument. They are really excellent souvenirs of this place. Some of our party to-day witnessed the ascent to a great height of a balloon carrying a man in a basket hanging from it. When it left the ground, the flags of the Stars and Stripes and of the Rising Sun were seen flying from the basket, and when it reached a certain height, they let go the cord by which it was attached to the ground ; the balloon then went up several thousand feet and drifted away towards New York. We were told later that this was intended for our benefit, and we greatly regretted that, owing to some misunderstanding by the interpreters, most of us missed this interesting performance.

#### **June 15th.**

We had a call from the officials of the Mint and discussed the rate of exchange between the two countries and other questions of currency. Today we sent some silk and porcelain to the Mayor of Philadelphia as a small souvenir of our visit to his city, and some also to the manager of our hotel. In the evening we were entertained with a great display of fireworks in front of the hotel. A large crowd came from all quarters to see it and they cheered with delight at the shower of fire. Some of the fireworks are really excellent, but much the same as those we saw at Baltimore.

#### **June 16th.**

We left Philadelphia this morning, and, after nearly an hour's drive from the hotel, reached a river. The railway station was on the further bank and we had to cross in a ferry boat which took our carriages on board while we were sitting in them. A train specially fitted up for us, was waiting and started immediately we

had taken our seats. After passing the towns of Harrington and Caunden and a few smaller places, we came to a town called Amboy on the bank of a river, where a steamer from New York with a committee of welcome on board was awaiting our arrival. The steamer almost immediately left the pier and began to steam down the river into the bay of New York. As we entered the bay we could clearly see the large buildings and towers of the city, as well as many ships at anchor all along the shore. We were welcomed at the pier by a number of representative men and were at once taken to the carriages provided for us. Our procession was really an imposing one and surpassed all those that we had taken part in the other cities. The Treaty Box was placed in a carriage drawn by four horses, which was gaily decorated with flowers and the flags of the two nations ; some of our subordinates were in the carriage, as custodians of the Box. The numerous carriages containing our party followed, and there was a military band both in front and at the rear. Twice the number of troops that had escorted us in Washington, accompanied us here. We went very slowly and by a roundabout way, as usual. The streets and windows were packed. The enormous crowds, and street after street of large buildings, enabled us easily to realise that this is the largest city in America. Our long and gay procession reminded us somewhat of our religious processions at home. We stopped finally in an open space facing a wide street. Alighting from the carriages, we were conducted to seats on a raised platform specially built for the occasion. The troops which had been standing in readiness, then began to march past us, battalion after battalion, each headed by a band. First came

the infantry, then the artillery and last of all, the cavalry. The different colours of the uniforms, varying according to rank and division, were very pretty. A general on horseback was stationed near us. It was amusing to watch the cavalry bandsmen playing while they were on horseback, and to see the infantry bandmaster swinging a long stick with a silver ball at the end, as he led his men. Although they marched well, and had a soldierlike appearance, I doubt if they would prove to be the best of fighters in actual warfare, as, we hear, they are only a volunteer army raised from the common classes, and, except on certain days during which they are trained, they are engaged in business. There are very few regular and professional soldiers in this country. Even among the officers, there are few who devote their whole time to the art of war. When the parade was over, we re-entered our carriages and, driving again through the crowded streets, reached the hotel at dusk. It is a large handsome building, six stories high. Small flags of Japan and of America waved from many of the windows; and, on the roof, flags twenty feet long, of both nations were flying. In some places, strings of flags of all nations, with a large Japanese flag in the centre, were hung across the streets, and the children cheered and welcomed us by waving little paper flags of the Rising Sun, which were sold in the streets.

#### **June 17th.**

To-day being Sunday, there was no repetition of yesterday's noise and boisterous scenes; the whole of the city was as quiet as if it were asleep. We had nowhere to go and nobody came to see us, so we rested all day in the hotel. New York is in



nearly the same latitude as Hakodate, but the temperature here at this time of year is much higher than it is there. Whether the size of the city has anything to do with it or not, I do not know.

#### **June 18th.**

Escorted by a battalion of troops we to-day paid a formal call on the Mayor of New York.

#### **June 19th.**

The Metropolitan Hotel is the name of our temporary home. It is the largest and finest we have stayed in since we landed in America. On the ground floor there is a large theatre into which a considerable number of people flock every evening. A guard stands in the passage leading to our rooms, to prevent our being disturbed. From the roof of the hotel there is a good view of the city. We see from there the two busiest thoroughfares, where the principal shops, theatres and restaurants are. The traffic is great. Pedestrians and carriages of all sorts pass from early morning until late at night, and, as the streets are brilliantly illuminated at night with innumerable gas lamps, they are as light then as in the day time. There are, however, only two of these busy and prosperous streets; the others are much quieter and their shops are second-rate.

Washington is the capital of America, but compared with Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, it is quite a small town. It is the seat of the central government, and nearly all the government officials reside there during the short term of their public service; when that is over, they retire to their homes in other towns. Life in the capital is very simple. Even officials of high rank have but few retainers. Very often they stay in

hotels. It seems to me that the capital of a country need not be a large social and commercial centre; it is preferable that it should be a small quiet town, so that the governing class may live simple and thrifty lives, free from the luxury and vice of large cities. Although New York is the largest city, as well as the largest port in America, there are, so Captain Dupont warned us, numbers of rough people about, and there is also a bad foreign element in the city, as is the case in all seaports almost without exception.

#### **June 20th.**

We were visited by the Mayors of the two towns of Boston and Niagara. They both expressed a desire that the Japanese Ambassadors should visit their respective towns from which they had been specially sent to invite us to do so. Boston is said to be the largest town north of New York, and Niagara is famous for its great waterfall, one of the finest and grandest sights in the whole of America. The mayors were very much disappointed when we declined their invitation and they said that the failure of their special mission would cause great disappointment to the inhabitants and would place the Mayors themselves in an awkward position. Nevertheless, we persisted in refusing to go anywhere out of New York during the time our ship was being got ready for sea. We had already declined to accede to the President's earnest request that we should visit different cities and towns, and it would not do for us to yield now. The Mayors finally gave up the attempt to persuade us and returned to their towns, taking with them our hearty thanks for the proffered hospitality.

We had a call from the French Consul-General this morning. A watchmaker who has a factory near Boston, sent a watch each

to Shimmi and myself as a gift ; they have our names engraved inside, in English and in Japanese, and are of beautiful workmanship.

### **June 21st.**

To-day we drove to a suburb called Fort Washington which is situated in a wood high above the river, at some distance from the city. Even at this quiet little place, a large crowd stood awaiting our arrival, and, as usual, the policemen were busy keeping order. We were taken to a beautiful villa in a commanding position on a high cliff, and we had a really grand view of the river and surrounding country. In the city we cannot help feeling that we are strangers in a strange land, as the manners and customs are unlike those of Japan. As soon, however, as we get into the country, it is quite different ; the fact that we are far from our native land is not brought so vividly before us. The hills, valleys and rivers, carved by nature, are much more homelike ; the vegetation too is similar to that which we are accustomed to. The very birds in the trees around us, sing the same melodies as their oriental sisters. All these things combine to make us feel more at home. Our host, the owner of the villa, is said to be the head of a newspaper office. He treated us to several glasses of refreshing drinks. When we were about to leave, he asked us, a little to our surprise, to remain a little longer, to see some deaf children. Two deaf girls then came forward and commenced quickly to move the fingers of both hands. A man standing near interpreted for us and we found that with the quick motions of their hands they had made us a speech of welcome. It appears that there is a school here to teach the deaf the language of the fingers. The

girls had probably been brought before us in order that we might have a proof that education here has reached such a pitch of efficiency that even the deaf are not neglected. This was quite a new experience for us, but, at the same time, we could not help feeling great sympathy for these unfortunate girls, whose manner and dress led us to believe that they were the daughters of good families. We drove back at sunset, and thus ended a thoroughly enjoyable day.

#### **June 22nd.**

A prominent member of the Municipality of the City came to see us this morning. He is said to be one of the wealthiest merchants in New York, and he carries on an extensive trade with different parts of the world, by means of his own ships. He is a clever man and he plied us with innumerable questions respecting the merchandise we produce in Japan — its quality and price, and the customs and conditions of trade in our country. — As we are not merchants, and naturally know very little about trade, we were frequently unable to reply intelligently to the enquiries he made. We are told that there are not many manufactories in this country which depends largely upon imports from Europe. There is every reason to believe that we have a fine opportunity of exporting to America certain articles produced at home.

#### **June 24th.**

This morning we received Commodore Perry's son-in-law, Mr. Belmont. He invited us to his home, and as we wished to show our respect for the memory of the late Commodore, we accepted the invitation.

The owner of a manufactory for making fire-arms, near

Washington, sent each of us three, a present of a five-pounder gun of the latest pattern. Our names are engraved on each gun in English and in Japanese.

#### **June 25th.**

A dance was given this evening in our honour by the city of New York. It was held in the hotel theatre which had been enlarged for the occasion, in order to accommodate as many hundreds of people as possible. At the time appointed, we went down, accompanied by Captain Dupont and were conducted through a dense crowd to a raised platform at the end of the great hall. A countless number of large and small gas lamps made the whole place as light as day. Shortly after we were seated, dancing, similar to that which we had already seen, commenced. We watched several dances and then were ushered into a banquetting hall where we were regaled with the usual number of courses and amount of champagne. The dinner over, we were asked if we would watch the dancing again, but as it was already late, we retired. The dancing was to be kept up till morning. We were told that the large ball had been given as a great treat for us, and it was reported in all the newspapers that the grand banquet was in honour of the Japanese Embassy. We are sorry to say, however, that it was far from being to our taste.

#### **June 26th.**

Leaving the hotel a little before the time appointed for the reception given by Mr. Belmont, we paid a short visit to the widow of the late Commodore Perry, to show our friendship and respect for her husband. We found her living in a fine, large house, not far from our hotel. She was delighted to see us, and

her daughters and granschildren joined her in welcoming us. The room in which we were received was a large one and was handsomely decorated with many articles from Japan, some being presents from our gracious Ruler to the late Commodore when the latter visited our country. Mrs. Perry told us that her husband died only three years ago, after having gained the admiration and appreciation of the whole American nation for his success in opening the door of Japan which had till then been closed to the rest of the World, in accordance with our policy of seclusion. She also said that our appearance in America, as the first Japanese Embassy, only six years after the opening of our country to foreigners, had recalled her late husband to the memory of the nation. We assured her that it would have been a great pleasure to us if we could have seen her great husband in his own home. The heir of the family is a lieutenant in the Navy for which his father did so much, and he is at present at sea. Exchanging hearty farewells, we left and drove to Mr. Belmont's house, not far distant, and were received in a large fine room in which there were many beautiful articles of value. Our hostess is a daughter of the late Commodore Perry and is a very handsome woman of four or five and twenty. Shortly after, we were shown into a spacious dining room where a large number of guests were assembled, and we took our seats by the side of the hostess at the centre of the table. As we observed before, it is the hostess, not the host, who presides and holds full sway over the table. After dinner we proceeded to another room where coffee was served. After spending some time in conversation, we took our leave and drove back to the hotel. There is nothing but change in the affairs of this world! We knew that a great land called

America, extending from the north to the south pole, lay on the other side of the broad Pacific, but it was only when Commodore Perry, with his fleet, appeared in our waters, as an envoy from his country, that we heard of the existence of the United States of America. Had not some benevolent spirit persuaded our gracious Ruler to yield to the request made, we might then have taken up arms with a view to maintaining our hereditary policy of excluding all foreign intercourse. What a change in a few years ! To-day, six years after that great national crisis, we are here in the midst of the friendly American nation, welcome guests in the house of the very Commodore Perry whose great fleet might have stirred our peaceful land to battle ! The time has come, when no nation may remain isolated and refuse to take part in the affairs of the rest of the World.

#### **June 28th.**

This is our last day in America and we have been busy making final purchases and packing. We told Captain Dupont that we wished to settle our accounts for the hotel, travelling and other expenses incurred since we arrived in Washington, and we asked him if he would help us to do so. To our surprise, however, he said that, as guests of the nation, all our expenses would be defrayed by the President. We replied that, although we highly appreciated this kindness, we felt it our duty to pay the expenses incurred by the Government on our account ; but the Captain persisted in refusing our repeated requests to be allowed to do this. The only thing for us to do, therefore, was to leave the question of those expenses, as well as those incurred in connection with the warships, to the consideration of our Govern-

ment, on our return. In the cities of Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Washington, large sums of money had been spent in our entertainment. We saw from the newspapers that Philadelphia spent \$10,000 and New York \$20,000. Although we yielded to Captain Dupont's representations in the matter of payment, we made a point of leaving some money to be given as tips to the hotel attendants and others whose services had been placed at our disposal on various occasions. We accordingly handed \$20,000 to the Captain, begging him to distribute the amount through the proper channels. A few hours later he returned and told us that he had telegraphed to Washington, as he did not know what course to pursue in the matter, and the President, in reply, stated that he could not accept the money. We insisted that it was merely for tips, and told our good Captain that, as it had left our hands, we could not take it back. In view of our determination, he proposed that he should take the money to Mr. Belmont, who has very wide powers in banking and commercial affairs in New York, and ask him to distribute it to the people to whom we wished it to be given. For the reason stated, and also because he is related to Commodore Perry, Mr. Belmont is the right person to undertake the commission. We think this is a good idea, so we have requested the Captain to do as he suggested. We have received a letter from the Commander of the "Kanrin" informing us that her repairs are now completed and that she will be ready to leave San Francisco on May 8th on her homeward voyage via the Sandwich Islands. The "Niagara" will leave New York on the 31st. We are all delighted that the time has last come for us to return, and we feel as if we should be at home in a few days, quite forgetting



that it will be five long months before we get a glimpse of our native land.

We presented Captains Dupont, Lee and Porter each with a Japanese sword blade, in recognition of their unceasing kind services during our stay in this part of the country and we asked Captain Dupont to hand to Secretary Cass a letter which we had written on this our last day in America, to express our gratitude to him and to the nation for the cordial reception accorded to us during the whole of our visit to America.

#### **June 29th.**

Temperature 84°. We left the hotel at 1 o'clock, and escorted by a small body of troops drove to the pier. We boarded a small steamer called the "Helen" in honour of the President's charming niece. An opportunity was afforded us of seeing the whole of the harbour, before we reached the "Niagara" What a large and secure haven for shipping it is! Thousands of vessels were at anchor all along the shore, resting quietly after their contest with the rough sea. We saw two shipbuilding yards a short distance off; one is the Navy Yard and the other belongs to a private firm. In the middle of the harbour, a giant ship called the "Great Eastern" rode at anchor. This monster ship is English and run both by screw and by paddles. Her length is 680 feet, her breadth 83 feet and her depth 53 feet. She has seven masts and can accommodate three thousand men and run three hundred miles every twenty-four hours. They say that she is too large for general use, as she consumes too much coal; moreover in many ports there is not sufficient space for her. At last we reached the "Niagara" and, as we went on

board, a salute was fired. Each member of the party now settled down in the cabin assigned to him. The "Niagara" is to sail tomorrow, so we spend tonight in the harbour. She takes her name from the greatest waterfall in America, and is one of the finest ships in the American Navy. She is a screw steamer of 4,509 tons, with a length of 345 feet, a width of 55 feet and a depth of 31 feet. Her complement is thirty-seven officers, three doctors, two officers of marine, and 424 crew.

#### **June 30th.**

Captain Dupont, Captain Lee and Captain Porter came on board to bid us a last farewell. We parted from the three officers with a deep sense of gratitude for the great services they have rendered us throughout our stay in America, and our grateful recollections of these good friends will never fade from our minds.

Shortly after noon the "Niagara" began slowly to steam out of the port, receiving a farewell salute from the fort whereon the flag of the Rising Sun was flying, and we proceeded on our way over the broad Atlantic.

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U. S. S. "Niagara" reached Japan after a long voyage of four months, having touched at the St. Vincent Islands, Roanda, a port of Portuguese East Africa which the Ambassadors were shocked to find was a busy centre of the slave trade, and at Batavia where they were presented by the Captain of the "Niagara" to the Dutch Governor of the East Indies.

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PART II  
THE JAPANESE EMBASSY  
AS SEEN BY  
LIEUT. JAMES I. JOHNSTON, U. S. N.,  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE POWHATAN,  
BEING  
CHAPTERS XIII, XIV, & XV OF HIS WORK  
"CHINA AND JAPAN"  
PUBLISHED AT PHILADELPHIA IN 1861.

I

We reached Yokohama\* Bay on the 11th of January, 1860, after the most boisterous and disagreeable passage we had made during the cruise, and found the thermometer standing at 30°, a temperature far below any we had experienced since December, 1857.

It was soon ascertained that the number of additional rooms built on our deck were insufficient for the accommodation of the Japanese Embassy, and the ship's carpenters were set to work at once to erect two more large state rooms; one of the guns on each side of the quarter-deck being dismounted, to make them more spacious and convenient. The coal hulk was removed from her anchorage nearer to the ship, and we commenced receiving coal from her, transported in native boats, which proved a somewhat tedious operation.

On the 16th, the Japanese steamer *Candimar*† arrived from Yedo, with the Embassadors on board, who came down to pay their respects to Flag-officer Tattnall, and to inspect the ship

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\*Yokohama †Kanrin Maru.

which was to become their home for so long a period, and during their first voyage upon the fickle element. They were received with a salute of 17 guns, and expressed themselves highly gratified by the attentions shown them, and the appearance of everything on board. Returning to their vessel after spending an hour on board the Powhatan, she got under way again and proceeded to Yedo. The Embassadors informed the Flag-officer that their preparations to embark could not possibly be completed before the 9th of the following month, and expressed a wish that Lieutenant Brooke might be ordered to take passage to San Francisco in the *Candimar* for the purpose of aiding the Japanese Commander in the navigation of the vessel across the North Pacific. None of the native officers had ever undertaken so long a voyage, and the boisterous weather they might expect to encounter in that ocean during the winter season, would have been rather too severe a test of their nautical qualifications, considering that all their former experience had been confined to the passage between Yedo and Nagasaki, in making which the most favorable weather had generally been selected.

Lieutenant Brooke's high professional attainments and great personal popularity among the native officials at Kanagawa, together with the fact of his recent misfortune in losing the vessel under his command, induced the Flag-officer cheerfully to grant the request of the Embassadors, and he was accordingly ordered to the *Candimar*, when she returned to Yokuhama, on the 3d of February, to be equipped for the voyage and receive him on board, with the seven other persons from the Fenimore Cooper remaining on shore under his orders.

During our absence at Hong Kong, a large portion of the

town of Yokuhama had been destroyed by fire, including the extensive Tea-house described in a foregoing chapter, and several of the foreign merchants had suffered considerable losses by the conflagration of their warehouses. Laborers were busily employed removing the rubbish from the scene of the late disaster, and mechanics in constructing new buildings of a more imposing and commodious character — the competition among the foreign merchants, in seeking the most eligible locations for their residences, having reached a pitch of excitement scarcely equalled among the business men on Broadway. A new Tea-house had already been erected in the centre of the marsh back of the town far surpassing in size and style that which had been destroyed, a long causeway leading through the marsh towards this national palace of licentiousness.

The shops continued to present their unrivalled attractions to the foreigners of all nations visiting the place, and some new and beautiful article was brought into market every day that we remained there, so that making daily visits to the smiling shopmen became both an interesting and necessary occupation, to those who could afford to indulge their taste for the curious and unique.

There were other shops for the sale of the more essential articles that were required on board for daily consumption, of which there was an abundant supply at extremely moderate prices; hampers containing a bushel and a half of fine Irish potatoes being sold for an itzibu, a pair of splendid pheasants, wild geese, or wild ducks, for the same, and wild boar meat and venison commanded no higher prices in proportion; we frequently bought for our mess, a fine fat duck

for two dollars. Beef was to be procured without difficulty, but not upon the same economical terms. The fish caught in the bay are generally more remarkable for beauty of form and color, than for delicacy of flavor ; but there was no limit to the supply, the number of fishing boats constantly employed in the capture of the finny tribe, seeming almost to equal that of the unwary victims.

There appeared to be no great variety of fruits in Japan; but during a former visit to this place in the month of October, we procured an abundance of remarkably fine grapes, and at this time (January) there was in market a profusion of the most luscious persimons in the world. They measured nearly six inches in circumference, and were entirely free from the roughness and astringency of taste found in that fruit in other countries. The natives dry them, and pack them in boxes for transportation, in which state they resemble both in appearance and flavor the best Smyrna figs. The grape is also preserved, and in a very peculiar manner, the fruit being encased in a coating of sugar about an eighth of an inch in thickness, excluding the air so thoroughly that it may be kept for months in perfection.

By the end of January, the additional state-rooms found necessary were completed, and all the apartments intended for the exclusive use of the Embassy were nicely painted, and put into habitable condition. The decks were covered with the soft matting, peculiar to the country, one of which was also placed in each berth, numbering in all fifty-four, exclusive of those appropriated to the Embassadors and higher officials, in the upper and lower cabins. The coal had all been received on board, filling not only the bunkers, but every available spot on the upper deck with this invaluable agent of the great motor of modern times; the

few small corners unsuited to its stowage, were occupied by bullocks, sheep, pigs, poultry, and an endless variety of indescribable Japanese *Comestibles*, done up in equally strange looking tubs and packages.

We got under way for Yedo on the 1st of February, where we anchored within two hours, near the same spot selected on our former visits. The flag-officer lost no time in calling on Mr. Harris, to inform him that the ship was in readiness for the reception of the Embassadors and their suite, and to ascertain precisely at what time they would be prepared to embark. Mr. Harris, placed such implicit confidence in the punctuality and fidelity of the Japanese officials generally, that he assured the flag-officer he might dispel any apprehension of delay on the part of the Embassy, as every one connected with it would undoubtedly be on board the ship, prepared for immediate departure, at the original time appointed. Although the preliminary arrangements had all been made by Mr. Harris, it was evident that a personal interview between the Flag-officer and the distinguished functionaries soon to become his guests, would be productive of mutual advantage; and therefore immediate preparations were made for a meeting at the palace of the Prime Minister of the Empire—the party consisting of the Flag-officer and Mr. Harris, Captain Pearson, the Flag-lieutenant (Trenchard), and myself.

We assembled at the residence of Mr. Harris on the morning of the 5th of February, attended by servants bearing the paraphernalia in which we were to be arrayed for the occasion, and being received by the host with the almost overpowering politeness for which he is distinguished, were conducted to the respective apartments assigned us for the immediate adornment of

our persons, by means of epaulettes, cocked hats, swords, gold laced coats and pantaloons, as the *Cortège* was to move precisely at meridian. A few minutes before this hour, the spacious yard in front of the dwelling exhibited quite an animated scene, being filled with norimons and their bearers, and also a number of highly respectable looking individuals, who were dressed in the national costume, and wore a sort of uniform, or livery, made of dark blue cotton bound with red. Upon inquiry as to the part those gentlemen were to play in the drama about to be performed, I was told that no dignitary of Mr. Harris's rank could pay an official visit in Yedo, without being attended by at least fifteen or twenty persons of this class, as an escort or body guard, each individual having some special duty nominally assigned him. The native Princes, and other high officials, maintain a retinue for this special purpose; but the foreign ministers order them for State occasions, as they do any number of extra norimons they may require. One of the peculiar demonstrations of respect shown by the norimon-bearers to the rank of the person they may be carrying, consists in making a display of the muscular development so employed, for which purpose they bare their legs entirely, even in the coldest weather, tucking up the skirt of their long garments under the belt around their waists. This arrangement also considerably facilitates their movements, and as they had a march of nearly five miles to perform, it was scarcely to be wondered at that they availed of this advantage to its utmost extent.

Punctually at the hour appointed we all took possession of the norimon appointed to each, according to his official position—the Minister and the Flag-officer being supplied with much larger ones than the rest of the party. The imaginary pike bearers, etc.,



formed in the rear of the line of norimons, the one containing the Minister being preceded by six stalwart natives, two of whom bore the American flag. Next to him came the Dutch interpreter and Secretary to the Legation, Mr. Hueskin, and then followed the Flag and other officers of the ship according to rank, a complete list of their names and official titles having been forwarded previously to the Prime Minister, as also of the number of commissioned officers remaining on board. Arriving in the street, this imposing procession evidently created quite a sensation among the grave and unsophisticated populace, who gazed in wondering admiration upon the scene, apparently undecided for a moment, as they saw it approaching, concentering the propriety of making the same obeisance required during the passage of one of their own *Daimios*,\* by kneeling and bowing their heads to the earth. The sight of the flag, however, with which they had become pretty generally acquainted, immediately quieted any apprehensions of the wrath of their offended dignitaries being visited on them for want of due respect; and they greeted us whenever they could catch a responsive glance, with smiles of kindly welcome, apparently making a running commentary upon our appearance, though whether complimnetary or the reverse, will ever remain unknown to us. Of course, their language was incomprehensible, and seated in a norimon it is quite impossible to form a very clear idea of the objects by which one is surrounded, as the line of vision is brought down to about the level of the knees while standing, but we could see enough in passing, to form a tolerably correct idea of the general character of the impression made upon the people by such an unusual

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\* "Daimio," a feudal lord.

parade of foreigners in the Imperial city.

We passed through miles of narrow streets, lined on each side with neat and cleanly shops for the sale of the various articles known in the country, and crowded by as happy, healthy looking people as I ever saw, most of whom stooped low enough to catch a passing glimpse of our *tout ensemble* as we reclined *à la Turque*, cocked hat in hand, upon the cushions of the norimon. From this busy quarter we soon emerged upon a large open space covered with booths, indicating it to be a market stand, and immediately beyond this appeared a broad stream of water, enclosed, as far as the eye could reach, between stone walls. Passing along the wide avenue, between this stream and a range of handsome stone buildings on the right, occupied by some of the hereditary Princes, we soon came to another open area, with the angle of a stone wall constructed of massive blocks of granite jutting out upon it, and reaching to the height of thirty feet. Just beyond the angle of this wall, huge gateway stood open to receive us, and as we entered a number of soldiers were visible at a small guard-house, armed with what appeared in the distance to be rifles, a rack containing similar weapons being placed in front of the guard-room. We pursued our course through an extended line of handsome one-storied buildings on each side, until we came to a second wall of the same height as the first, and passing through another gateway guarded in a similar manner to the former, we came suddenly upon a smoothly paved walk, leading directly to the entrance-hall of the Prime Minister's palace. Before entering this second gate we dismounted from our norimons, which were left outside, as it was very important that we should be relieved from the cramped position

to which we had been subjected by those torturing vehicles, some little time previous to the interview, otherwise the whole party would inevitably have gone limping into the hall of audience, and thereby destroyed completely the imposing effect of our "*war-paint*." The etiquette of the country also requires all visitors to leave their norimons outside the threshold, only the owner of the house alighting within. We were met at the entrance of the palace by four or five grave and dignified officials, who conducted us through a wide verandah, covered with the soft matting of the country; here in accordance with the national custom, we should have left our boots, but not appearing to observe the insinuating straw sandals placed at the door for our use, we passed from this verandah into a recess on the left, and turned into a spacious hall beyond, the rear wall of which was covered with thickly ornamented paper, the opposite side consisting of sliding sashes with paper in lieu of glass. On this side of the hall appeared about a dozen lower officials, placed at regular intervals on their knees, and scarcely venturing to raise their heads sufficiently to catch a hasty glimpse of the strangers, as we passed toward the upper end, and took our seats in the handsome arm chairs placed for us in the rear of a row of small tables. Between each two of these tables there stood a large brazier with a glowing charcoal fire, the weather being such as to render this quite a necessary provision for comfort. Our Minister was placed at the upper table, immediately opposite to a similar one in front of the Emperor's representative, and the other members of the party were seated in accordance with the order of their entrance, the Interpreter always occupying the position next the Minister, for the sake of convenience.

On the right of the Prime Minister, and opposite to our flag-officer, was the Minister of Marine, and on his right were placed the three Embassadors, who were soon to become the honored guests of our country. Moriyama, the native Interpreter, accompanied by Namoorra, who had been designated as the principal Interpreter to the Embassy, were on their knees in the space between the two ministers, and as Mr. Hueskin communicated to the former Mr. Harris's remarks to the Prime Minister, in the Dutch language, they were delivered by him in Japanese to his superior. While the conversation relative to the embarkation of the Embassy was going forward, servants dressed in silks had placed upon each of the tables, small cups of powdered tea, and trays holding pipes and boxes of tobacco, with which we were requested to regale ourselves as soon as it was concluded. The Flag-officer availed of the opportunity afforded by this interview, to urge upon the Minister the great advantage of conveying the Embassadors to the United States *via* the Cape of Good Hope, in preference to the route across the North Pacific at that boisterous season, and the passage over the Isthmus from Panama. After representing fairly all the inconveniences and discomforts to which they would probably be exposed on the latter route, and explaining that his reason for mentioning the subject, was simply to give them the benefit of his experience in relation to it, the Flag-officer left the decision of the question entirely to the judgment of the Premier, by whom it was immediately referred to the Embassadors, and they, after a little private consultation, expressed a decided preference for the Panama route, as they had always contemplated going in that way, and had therefore made it a subject of special study. This of course

decided the matter, and as there was no more official talking to be done, we all proceeded to discuss the various edibles with which the tables had been abundantly supplied and to drink the powdered tea, followed by numberless glasses of different kinds of *saki*, all of which we were required by etiquette to taste, and some of which taste compelled us to finish.

As we were indulging in a pipe after this delicate refection, two servants marched in, bearing a neat tray, upon which were laid five rolls of silk, which was placed before Mr. Harris, with a request that he would accept the offering as a slight mark of friendly regard, from the Prime Minister. Mr. Harris expressed his thanks in appropriate terms, and presently in came four other servants, with a similar tray of silks and a beautiful box containing a fine sword-blade, which were placed before the Flag-officer with the same request, and, of course, accepted with thanks. This ceremony was repeated until each of the visitors had received a present corresponding with his position, the name and rank of each being placed on a large card written in Japanese and English, and handed to him with the presents. Trays, each holding two pieces of beautiful crape silk were then brought in, and deposited before us, to be presented to the eleven commissioned officers who had not been able to attend, but as these articles could not be conveniently taken with us, they were sent on board the ship the following day, by order of the Prime Minister.

These presents were offered in accordance with a peculiar custom of the Japanese, and which exists among most oriental nations, requiring them, on ceremonial occasions, to testify their respect and friendship by some substantial token; and a refusal to

accept the gift they regard as an evidence of ill-breeding and discourtesy, even indicating feelings of animosity. Consequently, there was no alternative for the Minister and the Flag-officer but to accept the friendly tokens in the spirit with which they were proffered; and as *they* did so, of course there was no disposition on the part of their inferiors in rank to decline such refined and tasteful presents, coming as they did from a source at once elevated and novel. To avoid invidious remarks, however, Commodore Tattnall transferred the present he had received to two of the ward-room officers.

Soon after expressing our admiration and thanks for these beautiful productions of Japanese art, we rose to take our departure; but, abandoning all ceremony, the distinguished host and the Embassadors also left their seats, and joined us in the centre of the hall, expressing in animated terms their great admiration of our uniforms, the epaulettes exciting quite enthusiastic encomiums, and the cocked hat being evidently regarded as a peculiar "institution." A little *badinage* on this subject gave an agreeable termination to our visit; and bidding a respectful adieu to the assembled dignitaries at the entrance of the audience-hall, we were escorted to the door of the palace by the Embassadors and other attendant officials, where we again doubled ourselves up, and squirmed into the dreaded norimons, to be carried back to the residence of our Minister by the same route we had pursued in going to the palace.

Reaching Mr. Harris's comfortable residence, we hastened to relieve our weary frames from the fatiguing position we were compelled to maintain in these abominable contrivances (which are a reproach to the ingenuity of the Japanese), and to divest our-

Selves of the buckram in which we had so long been encased. The remainder of the evening was passed in entertaining conversation with our agreeable host, and, after an early breakfast in the morning, we returned to the ship.

Early in the afternoon of the same day, February 5th, several large native boats were seen approaching the ship ; and when they reached us, it was ascertained that they contained a number of iron-bound boxes, fitted with handles for the convenience of transportation, and of a size and general appearance indicating their contents to be of more than ordinary consequence and value. It was at once surmised that these were the presents from the Emperor to the President of the United States ; and of course they were handled with becoming caution and respect, while receiving on board and stowing them away for the voyage. These precious tokens of Imperial regard were accompanied by numerous small packages securely bound with ropes of straw, the weight of which left no room for doubt as to their value ; and, upon inquiry, they were found to contain Mexican dollars, to the amount of nearly one hundred thousand, belonging to members of the Embassy.

The suspicion which had still lingered in the minds of some of the officers, that we were to be disappointed, after all the preparations made for the reception of the Embassy on board, could no longer exist after this important and valuable shipment ; and the appearance on our deck, three days afterward, of a neat and compact cooking range, gave equal assurance that the culinary arrangements had received a due share of attention on the part of the *chef de cuisine* to the Embassadors. The construction and manufacture of this portable range afforded a remarkable specimen

of the ingenuity and workmanship of the native mechanics, deserving of special notice. It consisted of four oblong copper boilers, two feet deep by eighteen inches in width, the lower half enclosing a small furnace for charcoal, which opened in front; and the covers of each boiler were so constructed that the whole four could be fitted closely together, forming a range of sufficient capacity to *boil* the food of at least two hundred persons. As the Japanese neither roast nor bake any article of their diet, no arrangement was made for that style of cooking. The whole affair was finished with the neatness for which all their mechanical works are distinguished; but their delay in bringing it on board had excited no little apprehension, lest the large accession to our usual number should interfere materially with the already limited and inconvenient cooking arrangements provided for the officers and crew of the ship - never dreaming that within twenty-four hours of the time appointed for our sailing, so complete and commodious an affair as this range proved to be, could be prepared for service. Mechanics had come on board while we remained at Yokuhama, and taken an accurate measurement of the caboose-house built on our deck at Hong Kong, and forwarding the requisite dimensions to other mechanics at Yedo, it was manufactured and brought on board, where, with the aid of a little soft mud, it was soon so firmly fixed in its place, that the ship might have rolled over, and it would have maintained its position.

An incident occurred about this time which illustrates the fact that considerable deference will have to be paid to the peculiar notions of this singular people for some time to come, and which ought to serve as a slight warning to strangers visiting the country, against an unrestrained indulgence of their curiosity.



The Chaplain of the Powhatan had been reading in some work describing the wonders of Yedo, an account of a very large and much frequented temple, situated in a distant quarter of the city: and he determined, in a spirit of inquiry and thirst for learning, for which he is justly distinguished, to have a look at this interesting edifice. He mentioned his resolve to Mr. Hueskin, the Secretary of Legation, desiring to enlist his kind offices in the procurement of a horse and guide; but that gentleman hastened to assure him that he would require the protection of two or three officials in travelling so far beyond the ordinary limits of foreign incursion, as the inhabitants of that part of the city were much averse to the intrusion of strangers, and would probably insult him, or even commit some outrage upon his person, if he ventured alone into their secluded precinct. The Chaplain was too much accustomed to rambling alone wherever his "own sweet will" dictated, to entertain for a moment any apprehension of danger; and his eagerness to acquire information would have overcome, at all events, a small mountain of obstacles of whatever description; so he resolutely declined the services of the officials, and started off on his kicking pony, with a small boy to act as pilot, who conducted him safely to the end of his perilous journey, and, on arriving at the temple, he dismounted and walked into the immense crowd of men, women, and children assembled therein, with as much *nonchalance* as if he was to be the officiating clergyman on the important occasion which had called them together. But, while he was gazing with intense curiosity and delight at the interior decorations of the heathen fane, he suddenly felt a gentle tap on the upper part of his person, which he was not long in ascertaining came from a small missile projected by

the hand of some one in the crowd, and as he turned to direct his attention more to the mass of animation around him than he had hitherto condescended to do, he felt his arms suddenly seized by a couple of genteel officials, who quietly walked him out of the temple, and, by an expressive pantomime, motioned him on to his pony, and back to the Minister's residence, distant some seven miles ; where he learned for the first time that these officials had dogged his steps from the moment of his starting, and that, but for their timely interference, he would probably have been stoned to death by the incensed populace. The adventurous parson considered himself fully compensated, however, for the trouble and hazard of his excursion, by the momentary glimpse he had obtained of the particular object of his research, especially as he had passed through a very populous and well-built portion of Yedo in its pursuit, which he described as being far superior to any he had previously seen.

Punctual to the hour appointed for their embarkation, the Embassadors, with their numerous retinue, were seen coming alongside of the ship with a fleet of thirty boats, at 3 p. m., on the 9th, and arrangements were immediately made for their reception, with all the marks of Naval etiquette due to their elevated rank. The Japanese flag was run up at the fore, and the men called to their stations for saluting, the officers paraded on the starboard side of the quarter-deck in uniform, the marine guard on the opposite side, and the boatswain with his pipe and six "side boys," standing by to pipe them over the side, while the band was in readiness to strike up our own national air in honor of the occasion, the Japanese anthem not having been composed as yet. The Embassadors were received at the gangway by the Flag-

officer, and escorted to the poop-deck, on reaching which the salute of seventeen guns was thundered forth from our heavy battery, to their infinite surprise and satisfaction.

Immediately after the ceremonies of the reception were concluded, the usual quiet and systematic routine of duties progressed in their ordinary channels, and desiring to make an early acquaintance with the relative rank and individual appellations of the large accession to the number, for whose suitable accommodation it devolved upon me to assign quarters, I hastened to procure from the principal interpreter a correct list of the persons composing the Embassy, which is here subjoined :

Embassador No. 1,.....	Simme-Boozen-no-kami.
„ „ 2,.....	Muragaki-Awadsi-no-kami.
Chief Censor (or spy),.....	Ogure-Bungo-no-kami.
Officers of 1st rank belonging to Embassadors,.....	{ Naruse Gensiro. Tsuchihara Jugoro.
Officers of 1st rank belonging to Censor, .....	{ Hetaka Keisaburo. Osakabe Tetstaro.
Under officers belonging to the Embassadors, .....	{ Matsmoto Sannojio. Yosida Sagosaimon.
Under officers belonging to the Treasurer, .....	{ Masudu Sunjuro. Tuge Hosingoro.
Under officers belonging to the Censor, .....	{ Kurisima Hico-hatsiro. Lewo-sawa-Scojero.
Interpreters, .....	{ Namooro Gohatsiro. Tateise Tokujuro. Tateise Onogero.
Doctors, .....	{ Meodake. Moriyama. Cowasaki.

This list comprises the number of officials of all grades who come on board, to which must be added fifty-two attendants with

various distinct vocations—such as barbers, pike-bearers, armorers, and servants, making a total of seventy-one persons.

The boats containing the baggage, amounting in all to more than fifty tons, were permitted to come alongside at the conclusion of the salute, and in a brief space of time, the endless variety of packages, consisting of chests, boxes, bales, tubs, bundles, buckets, bowls, cooking utensils, etc., etc., were transferred to our decks, and distributed so rapidly by the intelligent attendants, with slight assistance from the crew, that some little wonder was excited as to what disposition had been made of them. The interpreters were instructed concerning the designation of the various apartments appropriated to the Embassy; and in the course of an hour these seventy-one strangers, but few of whom had ever before been on the deck of any vessel larger than one of their native junks, were as quietly and comfortably quartered as if they had spent their lives in a man-of-war.

As soon as the boats were discharged of their contents, the ship was got under way for Kanagawa, and reached the anchorage near that town at about 7 P. M. The dropping of our anchor was followed by the arrival of sundry boat loads of noisy domestic animals, for whose accommodation a large addition had been made to the ordinary supply of coops, pens, etc., and they "made night hideous" with their quacking, squealing, and cackling, until they got possession of their new quarters. This opportunity for replenishing the supplies of the ward-room mess was not neglected by our attentive steward, but in his laudable efforts to provide for our comfort, the poor fellow met with a sad fate. He was returning from Yokuhama to the ship before day-break in the morning, in a native boat containing two bullocks,

under the impression that we were going to sea at a very early hour, and the wind becoming quite fresh, and directly ahead, the boatmen found it impossible to make any progress against it, or to return in safety to the shore. The weight of the bullocks caused the boat to swim so deep, that she was soon swamped by the rising sea, at some distance from the beach. The lifeless body of the steward was found at the water's edge soon after daylight by a native fisherman, and the melancholy event was immediately communicated to the Captain of the Powhatan by a Japanese official sent off by the Governor. A party of men were despatched at once to perform the last rites of friendly respect to his remains, and they were decently interred in the foreign burial-ground at Yokuhama. It was afterwards learned that one of the boatmen was drowned, and the other narrowly escaped a similar fate. Both the bullocks, of course, found a watery grave, and fed the fishes instead of the more appreciative party to whom they rightfully belonged, in the ward-room of the Powhatan.

The ship was now in readiness to proceed on her voyage and all were anxious to depart, particularly as the delightful weather we had experienced during the previous month had suddenly changed, and the appearance of snow, four inches deep, on our decks, seemed to admonish us that it was quite time to seek a more genial climate, leaving out of the question our impatience at the numerous delays which had already extended our cruise beyond the ordinary limits. The *Candimar* was already on her way to San Francisco, having sailed from Uraga on the 9th.

An unexpected cause of further detention arose at this unpropitious moment, in the shape of a diplomatic correspondence between our Minister resident at Yedo and the British Consul-

General, in which the Flag-officer was necessarily involved, as he considered certain expressions in the first communication from the latter functionary, reflected injuriously upon the conduct of some of the officers of the ship ; he therefore resolved not to leave the country until the subject under consideration was properly adjusted, so far as the credit of the Navy was concerned. There being neither railroads nor telegraph wires in Japan, two days were occupied in the transmission of the correspondence growing out of this matter, whereas, as many hours would have sufficed in our country of iron horses and lightning despaches. As this vexatious correspondence originated in the complicated and embarrassing state of the currency at Yokuhama, a few words in explanation of the subject may not be amiss during the delay in our departure which it occasioned.

In the treaty negotiated by Mr. Harris, and signed on board the Powhatan July 29th, 1858, it was agreed that the Japanese should receive " all foreign coins for their corresponding weight of Japanese coin of the same description ; " a stipulation being added requiring the Government to furnish the Americans with Japanese coin in exchange for theirs, equal weight being given, and no discount charged for recoinage ; and allowing the period of one year to elapse after the opening of each harbor, to enable the Japanese to become acquainted with the value of foreign coins. By the same article of the treaty containing these terms, Americans, and all other foreigners having treaties with Japan, were allowed to export the coins of the country (copper excepted), in any quantity they could command ; and as the Japanese Government failed to establish, at the same time, the relative value of their gold coins according to the standard existing in other

countries, this privilege was eagerly taken advantage of by all the early settlers at Yokuhama, when it was discovered that so large a profit could be made by purchasing *obani*, *cobangs*, and gold *itzibus*, with silver *itzibus*. The sale of these coins to foreigners was prohibited by an Imperial edict, but this did not appear to have the least effect, except to produce an extensive illicit traffic in them, the Japanese merchants evincing the greatest anxiety to get rid of their gold on what they regarded as exceedingly favorable terms—receiving seven, eight, nine, and ultimately twelve silver *itzibus* for the *cobang*, a coin whose value to them, as fixed by the Government, was only four. The demand for silver *itzibus* soon became too great for the supply, as the coining facilities of the Government were of a very primitive character, and those which were paid into the hands of the Japanese merchants were at once removed from the business circulation, by being deposited in their private treasuries.

This profitable exchange of silver for gold did not continue more than five months, however, as the Japanese Government eventually recognized the necessity for adopting the suggestion made by our Minister, that the only method of stopping the ruinous efflux of gold coin from the country, would be to receive the *cobang* at the custom-houses at its real value, according to the foreign standard. The number of silver *itzibus* required in this traffic was small, though, compared with the amount expended in the legitimate branches of trade, as there were many cargoes of rape-seed oil, raw silk, lacquered ware, and other articles to be paid for in this coin alone, their value amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, which had to be multiplied by three to ascertain the number of *itzibus* required.

Under these circumstances it became necessary for the custom-house officials (who always acted under instructions from Yedo), to distribute this essential medium of trade, *pro rata*, among all the foreign residents at Yokuhama and Kanagawa, who chose to make application at the custom-house for the exchange of their Mexican dollars for itzibus ; and the number of dollars to be exchanged daily for each applicant, was determined by the amount in itzibus received from the mint at Yedo, thus causing daily variations in the amount to be exchanged, ranging from five to fifty dollars, the largest of these amounts being scarcely more than sufficient for the daily expenses of many of the mercantile establishments. As the names of the parties desiring to exchange their coin were required by the officials, the custom-house would be thronged every morning as soon as it was opened, with eager expectants, holding in their hands long lists of men of straw, for whom the stipulated amount of change was demanded ; and it was quite as amusing to observe the imperturbable gravity and precision with which the unmoved officials weighed the coin, as to hear the absurd and ludicrous names invented by the ingenious and excited applicants. It occurred to me at the time that the latter would have made admirable census-takers for a thinly-settled but aspiring district, in our land-speculating Western country.

This financial ruse was soon discovered, of course, by the keen and wary officials, but they chose to wink at it for a time, preferring to gratify the demands of the foreigners as long as it remained in their power to do so ; eventually, however, they attempted a counter-stratagem, by declaring that they could only exchange a small proportion of the amount demanded by each individual ; and to meet this, the astute and persistent foreigners



asked for the most fabulous and incalculable sums, whereupon they again resorted to the original rule of allowing only a certain amount to each person, and this was afterward adhered to rigidly. There were English merchants in Yokuhama, however, who contrived to procure the exchange of *itzibus* for large sums in dollars, and I am quite confident that they could only have done so, through the custom-house, by the official and peremptory interference of their consular representative, instances of which were reported to have occurred. Meanwhile, the Japanese merchants who had exchanged their gold *cobangs* for silver *itzibus* so advantageously, came to the foreigners to sell these in turn for Mexican dollars, charging them, of course, a "living profit" on the exchange, and relying upon their influence at the custom-house to replace the much-coveted coin. This artful dodge was revealed, by some means, to the Governor; and one of the wealthiest silk merchants in the place being detected in its practice, was imprisoned immediately, and had all his property confiscated—at least, so we were informed by reliable native authority. The business had evidently been overdone too, because when we were last at Yokuhama, Mexican dollars were being sold by the Japanese at two *itzibus*, or sixty-six and two-third cents each.

With this explanation of the vexatious obstacles thrown in the way of foreign trade at Yokuhama by the Japanese, (principally, as I sincerely believe, for the reasons indicated in the foregoing statement, but partly owing, no doubt, to their natural apprehensions concerning the possible political results of so sudden and so considerable an acquisition of wealth by a class of people held in such low estimation as merchants are among

the governing classes), I will proceed with my narrative.

Lieut. Habersham, of the Powhatan, having offered his resignation to the Flag-officer on the 1st of February, with the design of turning his attention to commercial pursuits in Yokuhama, it was accepted, subject to the approval of the President of the United States ; and Lieut. Thorburn, recently attached to the Fenimore Cooper, was ordered to the Powhatan, to supply the deficiency in the complement of lieutenants on board.

There was evidently a good deal of jealous feeling excited among the English residents at Yokuhama, by the successful issue of the patient and sagacious efforts made by our accomplished Minister at Yedo, to induce the Japanese Government to send their first foreign Embassy to the United States, in preference to all other countries, and I have good authority for stating that the most tempting offers, in the way of transportation, were made by the diplomatic agents of England resident in the country, to prevail upon the Imperial Government to change the destination of the Embassy, even after it had been organized and prepared to embark for the United States. Indeed, the opinion was prevalent among the officers of the Powhatan, that the communication addressed to Mr. Harris by the English Consul-General at Yedo, only two days previous to that appointed for the departure of the Powhatan with the Embassy on board, was simply a diplomatic ruse concocted by Dr. Alcock, in pursuance of this small aim for patriotic ambition, as this formidable document contained expressions evidently intended to excite apprehensions of England's displeasure with Japan, unless the first consideration was shown by her officials to British merchants residing in the country ; and

an imaginary departure from this course in the distribution of itzibus at the Yokuhama Custom-house, was made the subject of grave complaint to the Imperial Government, accompanied by the announcement that the conduct of the partial officials should be reported to the British lion—a threat which Dr. Alcock appeared to think would bring the Japanese very speedily to terms.

In support of the assertion that efforts were made to secure the first Embassy from this long-secluded country to England, and to change the destination of that designed for the United States, I have the voluntary assurance of *Namoora*, the principal Interpreter to the Embassy, given only a few days after sailing from Yedo, to the effect that a large and comfortable steamer had been placed at the disposal of the Government to convey the Embassadors as far as Aden, on the overland route to England, with suitable arrangements for the continuance of the journey, and that, as an additional and rare inducement, the Great Eastern was to have been employed for the return trip around the Cape of Good Hope. This sort of chicanery may be all right in diplomacy, but to the uninitiated it has rather a contemptible appearance.

The Flag-officer having instituted an official investigation into the facts connected with the frivolous allegations of partiality on the part of the Custom-house officials at Yokuhama, which charged them with dispensing an undue amount of itzibus to the officers of the Powhatan, was enabled to afford a complete refutation of the invidious aspersions which the English Consul-General had attempted to cast upon both the Japanese and American officers; as it was clearly proved that no distinction

had been made in this particular between English and Americans, except in the case of the officer who had the disbursement of all the funds of the ship, and whose expenditures were necessarily greater than those of any individual on shore. The Governor of Kanagawa was waited on and interrogated as to whether any of the officers of the ship had made use of their official position to extort a larger amount of change from the Custom-house than was allowed to foreigners generally, on shore, and replied unhesitatingly in the negative; adding that the Japanese Government reserved to itself the right of granting personal favors to whomsoever it thought proper, and if the officers of the Powhatan had solicited a favor of the kind in question, it would most certainly have been granted, as they were regarded in an entirely different light from other foreigners, on account of the particular service upon which they were employed.

With this satisfactory adjustment of the ill-conceived and badly executed device of the British Consul-General to detain the ship, originating in the now forlorn hope of changing the destination of the Embassy, the necessity for our longer stay in the Bay of Yedo was removed. Accordingly, on the morning of the 13th of February, we got under way, with the Japanese Imperial ensign flying at the fore, and proceeded to sea; after we passed the town of Uraga, a native war-steamer was seen beating up the bay under sail, in as gallant and seaman-like style as if the officers and crew had been accustomed to managing vessels of her class for years. She was too distant to make any sign of recognition, which the sight of the flag at our masthead would otherwise have prompted, and we steamed quietly round Cape Sirofama into the rolling swell of the broad Pacific.

## II

Fortunately, the weather was quite moderate during the first two or three days after losing sight of the coast, as the immense weight upon our upper deck, in addition to the ordinary burden of the ship, increased her draught of water considerably beyond that which was usual, and would have made her extremely uncomfortable in a heavy sea.

Our passengers availed themselves of this favorable opportunity to make the most convenient stowage of the numerous articles required for their daily and hourly use ; and it was surprising to see how readily they adapted themselves to the novel circumstances in which they were placed, and how ingenious they were in economizing space, so as to deduce the greatest possible amount of comfort and convenience from the very circumscribed quarters in which they were necessarily placed. The space between the beams overhead in each room was crossed with small strips of wood, or with a network of twine, which made a snug receptacle for many small or light articles, such as their funny looking hats, oiled-paper rain-clothes, and swords ; and that beneath the berths was occupied by trunks and boxes of clothing. Their bedding consisted of two cotton comforts nearly as thick as an ordinary mattress, between which they enveloped themselves in a loose gown of the same material, also thickly wadded ; they were by no means particular in the choice of a place for repose, using either the berth appropriated to them, or the deck for this purpose, as inclination prompted. On the floor in the centre of their rooms stood the indispensable fire-box, containing a living coal surrounded by ashes, and the servants were incessantly clattering along the deck in their wooden clogs, or straw

sandals, bringing repeated supplies of tea, which they seemed to be drinking at all hours of the day.

We were honored in the ward-room, on the first day out, with a visit from the Embassadors, who came down, attended by several servants, to pay their respects to the officers. They brought with them a present to each member of the mess, consisting of two extremely pretty lacquered cups, made of wood in the shape of wine-glasses; these were all placed in a box together, having a small *strip of dried fish-skin* tied on to the box with a paper string, this being the invariable accompaniment of even the most trifling gift from one of high rank. The distinguished guests were received with due politeness, and thanks returned for the delicate tokens of regard presented; and as the character of the gifts seemed somewhat suggestive of a libation to Bacchus, an immediate demand was made upon the steward for a supply of Constantia and Madeira wines, knowing the fondness of the Japanese for sweet wines and liquors of all descriptions. The Diplomats seemed to be too apprehensive of seasickness though, to enjoy either the society of their entertainers, or the liquors for which their countrymen generally evince the greatest partiality; and after a brief conversation with various members of the mess, conducted through the principal Interpreter, they retired to their apartments, followed by the attendants, who had been standing statue-like, in a corner of the room near the door during the visit, and who made the usual humble obeisance of bowing their heads to their knees, as these puissant dignitaries left the apartment.

During the voyage I frequently endeavored while conversing with the Interpreters, to introduce the subject of the personal

and official history of the Embassadors ; but they evinced great disinclination, like their countrymen generally, to impart any information relative to their superiors, without first obtaining permission from them and being taught *what* to say ; this they seemed afraid to ask. The invariable reply to all questions, bearing upon any point which they did not feel themselves at perfect liberty to discuss, was a stolid " I do not know," delivered with a look well calculated to excite doubt of their sincerity, and, at the same time, forbidding all hope of obtaining a more satisfactory answer. Another favorite mode of shirking what they regarded as impertinent inquiries, was to smile benignly, and say, "That not my business," with an expression that added " It is certainly not *yours*," causing the questioner to doubt for a moment whether he had not exceeded the limits of decorum in his thirst for knowledge. With all their reserve about their own affairs, they were remarkably curious on all subjects relative to others, and their "business" was soon found to extend only to the acquisition of all the information that could be obtained while on board, respecting the great country for whose shores they had embarked, and the social institutions, and domestic life of the strange people among whom they had been so suddenly thrown. The names and official titles of the ward-room officers were known to the members of the Embassy within twenty-four hours after they came on board, as they had not the slightest hesitation in walking up to any of us, and with a gentle nudge, by way of calling our attention, repeating the word "*name*" in a tone of inquiry, while they drew out the ever-ready memorandum-book and writing-case. As soon as they caught the sound, it was transferred in their own singular characters to the

book, and repeated to themselves until the correct pronunciation was fixed in their minds ; and it was really surprising to observe the facility with which it was acquired, as well as the accuracy of their memory when a word had once been learned by them.

All that I could gather respecting the public or private history of the Embassadors themselves, would make an exceedingly brief biography, but as I am assured that the merit of *truth*, at least, will attach to the statements I shall give, I trust this priceless quality will compensate for the absence of *bogus* information, in the shape of fancy sketches.

Simme-Boozen-no-kami, the Chief Embassador, was a uative of the city of Yedo, and about thirty-seven years of age, possessing a mild and benevolent countenance, and easy affability of manner, though somewhat inclined to taciturnity. He was evidently not a man of brilliant intellect, but appeared to possess an amiable temper and kind heart; and being of aristocratic origin, his personal appearance and manner indicated a degree of refinement, supposed to be peculiar to that favored class in Japan, as well as all other countries. Before he was appointed to the high position of Chief Embassador to the United States, he filled the office of Chamberlain to the Emperor, who, in consideration of his elevation, as well as to evince a proper degree of respect for the country to which he was accredited, conferred on him the title of *Kami*, which signifies a temporal lord or prince, and has also a spiritual meaning, indicating an association with the numerous gods worshipped by the disciples of Buddha and Sinto—as these ambitious islanders are not content with mere earthly distinctions. He was not one of the 360 *Damios*, or hereditary



Princes of the country, and has never been the ruler of a province, though he may have held the office of governor of a city.

Muragaki-Awadsino-kami, the second Ambassador, was a native of the island of Nipon, aged about fifty, and with the exception of the Treasurer, *Morita Okataro*, was the oldest man in the Embassy. But little intercourse was held with him by any one on board, as he was so great a sufferer from sea-sickness during the passage to Honolulu, that he never appeared on deck, and was even confined to his berth in the lower cabin the greater part of the time. He had formerly held the position of Governor of Hakodate, and was evidently a man of greater intellectual capacity than his chief, though the impossibility of holding any direct conversation with either, renders this more a matter of opinion than of practical deduction. He seemed attached to the Embassy merely as a make-weight, as it was never observed that he was consulted respecting any of their movements, or volunteered any suggestions on the subjects presented to their consideration. He also was a mere titular Prince, without hereditary distinction.

Ogure-Bungo-no-Kami was, without doubt, the shrewdest and most practical character of them all; and through him alone could the Ambassadors hold any official intercourse with the authorities of the different places they visited. His age was about 40, his figure small, but with a large intellectual head, according to phrenological judgment; and his face, which was slightly marked with small-pox, beamed with intelligence and sagacity. He had formerly occupied some confidential position near the person of the Emperor, and accompanied the Embassy

for the express purpose of rendering to his august Master an explicit and faithful record of the experience of all its members in their adventurous and, to them, unprecedented travels. The title of *Kami* was conferred upon the Censor when designated as one of the Embassy.

The principal officials, with whom we made quite familiar acquaintance, walked in and out without ceremony, at all hours of the day, frequently remaining in the mess-room until the lights were extinguished at 10 P.M. On their first visit after we got fairly out upon the ocean, they brought a large glass jar filled with dried figs, and a box of sugared grapes, which were presented to the mess, with something like ostentatious generosity, by *Naruse Gensiro*, whom we all addressed as "Governor," and *Tsukahara Jugoro*, the most universal favorite on board.

These two officials were emphatically the business-men of the Embassy, and the intermediate channel of communication between the Interpreters and the Embassadors, who themselves took no step of any importance without consulting the Censor. *Naruse* had been Vice-Governor of Yedo, *Tsukahara* was, shortly previous to joining the Embassy, the Mayor of Kanagawa, a post of considerable importance. He was represented to be the son of a *Damio* of great wealth; but while in Philadelphia, I heard him declare that nothing but necessity could induce him to retain the official position he occupied, conveying to me the impression that the reports we had heard on board, of his large expectations, were unfounded.

There were several other officials who paid daily visits to the officers of the ward-room mess, usually making their appearance about meridian, at which hour they expected to accomplish two

distinct objects, *imprimis*, to imbibe a glass of toddy and partake of anything in the way of luncheon that might be placed before them; *secundus*, to ascertain the position of the ship and the distance run within the preceding twenty-four hours; items of information of which they kept an accurate record during the whole passage. One of the number, bearing the respectable appellation of *Matamoto Sannojo*, and who was understood to be the historian of the Embassy, displayed so keen a scent for anything in the shape of an entertainment in the ward-room, and made his appearance so invariably on such occasions, in the very nick of time, that he was not long in acquiring the honored name of the *Beau Hickman* of the party.

The endless and various questions propounded by those who could speak sufficient English to be comprehended, produced a series of lectures on the American Constitution, the geography of the world, astronomy, navigation, agriculture, and natural history, which were calculated equally to interest the attentive audience of Asiatics, and to test the attainments of their instructors, for all felt anxious to afford them the information they so eagerly desired, and especially unwilling to subject their efforts to do so to the critical remarks of some of their fun-loving messmates, knowing that the slightest mistake would bring down upon them the unmerciful ridicule of a portion of the audience.

The strictest attention was paid throughout the voyage to the regulations established by the officers of the ship for the government of the passengers, ignorant and unaccustomed as they were respecting the necessity of the many little restrictions imposed by a regard for the safety and comfort of all on board ship. The lights in their state-rooms were always extinguished

punctually at 10 P.M., and a regular system of police was organized among themselves, to enforce a rigid compliance with the orders that had been issued concerning the hour for their retirement, and for the preservation of quiet. One of their number could be heard, at the hour for extinguishing the lights, going round to each room and inquiring if all its occupants were within, and the lights out—nothing short of a decided affirmative being considered satisfactory.

They seemed to have no regular hours for taking their meals, and yet to look upon the idea of leaving them for the performance of any duty, when once commenced, as utterly incompatible with comfort, and, therefore, not to be thought of for a moment. The labors of the venerable cook and his assistants were unceasing ; from the earliest dawn until the fire in his caboose was extinguished, at 9 P.M., the bustling servants were employed serving out rice, tea, and various preserved vegetables on the quarter-deck, to the immediate attendants of the officials, with the exception of the Embassadors, who were served in a similar manner in the cabins, in addition to the regular meals furnished them by the Flag-officer.

*Namoora Gohatsiro*, the principal interpreter, was a native of Nagasaki, about 27 years of age, of small stature and delicate frame, but of most indomitable energy and imperious will. He has been an interpreter of both Dutch and English for many years, having been associated with *Moriyama Yenoske*, the chief interpreter appointed to confer with Commodore Perry's Dutch Interpreter, Mr. Portman, and who is now the Interpreter to the Prime Minister of the Empire. *Namoora* was altogether the most intelligent man who belonged to the Embassy ; and he was un-

remitting in his efforts to gain all kinds of information about our country and people, during the voyage from Yedo to Panama. I had a long discussion with him, on one occasion, concerning the reintroduction of the Christian religion into Japan, brought about by my urging him to read the Bible. He not only refused to read it himself, but rejected my friendly offers to read it aloud for his edification, saying that he did not want to know anything about it; because if his countrymen should hear of his evincing any interest in the subject, he would be reported to the Government, and have his head taken off. He had no doubt the precepts it inculcated were excellent, but the risk of any attempt to become acquainted with them was too great for him, and he would have to content himself with ignorance on that branch of knowledge. I replied that the Bible would certainly be read in Japan at no distant day, by the people of the country, and that his refusal to do so was only a foolish continuation of the same obdurate heresy displayed by the Jews in ancient times, the results of which he could see manifested, as well in the downfall of that once-powerful people, as in the unparalleled prosperity of Christian nations, and the miraculous advancement of their religion throughout the world. His only answer to all my arguments and predictions was a most decided wag of that portion of his person which he seemed to feel in some danger, even while listening to my excited harangue, as he cast eager glances toward the ward-room door repeatedly, to be assured that neither of the other interpreters were within hearing.

*Tateise Onogero*, or "Tommy," was the pet of the ship, as he afterwards became of the ladies while in the United States. He was seventeen years of age, and was the adopted son of Tokujuro, the

second interpreter, by whom he was placed at the Dutch school at Nagasaki, to learn the English language. After acquiring a very imperfect knowledge of a small vocabulary, he was brought to Yokuhama, and given a situation as Interpreter in the Custom-house, where his obliging disposition and peculiar, nervous, and, at the same time, sociable manners, soon made him so popular with the merchants' clerks who had to transact business at the Custom-house, that the poor fellow was kept in a constant state of excitement by his untiring efforts to please all, for no other Interpreter would be approached as long as his services could be procured.

I had occasion to employ him only two days before the ship left Yokuhama bay for Yedo, to receive the Embassy on board, and he then expressed the greatest apprehension lest he should not be permitted to join it. When he came on board afterward, I never witnessed more exuberant happiness in any countenance or manner than he exhibited; he seemed to want to embrace everybody in the ship, and his delighted appearance was observed even among the crew, to many of whom he advanced with a frank and cordial "How d'ye do?" The Captain of the main top was something of a wag, and never permitted interlopers in the starboard gangway without attaching some expressive *sobriquet* to them, the appositeness of which caused it to be generally adopted. To this facetious individual is our friend *Tateise Onogero* indebted for the euphonious *nom de guerre* under which he took captive so many of his fair admirers in our novelty loving country.

Tommy was in and out of the ward-room an average of ten or twelve times a day, and, occasionally, when he would be

attacked with the indescribable qualms of sea-sickness, he would fall asleep like a weary child upon the sofa ; on awaking, after an hour's nap, he would evince the greatest astonishment at his whereabouts, and take a sudden leave with a " Good morning all gentlemens," although it might happen to be late in the afternoon. It seemed quite impossible to fix his attention upon any one subject more than a minute ; and, frequently, just as it might be presumed his interest was excited to such a degree as to insure his remaining, he would suddenly depart, saying, " I have business ; therefore, I go ; good bye," the last words being spoken after he was out of sight.

On the third day after sailing from Yokuhama, the weather became squally and unpleasant in the extreme ; the wind blew violently, and drove hail and snow in alternate blasts athwart our slippery and unsteady decks ; and the forward part of the ship was almost constantly enveloped in sheets of spray, which came rushing and tumbling aft to the quarter-deck, setting everything movable in its course to dancing, often in most inconvenient proximity to the shins of the unfortunates whose duty might compel them to attempt the passage to the galley, or cooking establishment. The poor animals on the forward deck suffered terribly with the cold and wet, and we had soon to slaughter the bullocks out of pure compassion ; the sheep and pigs seemed to " make better weather," to use a nautical expression, than the larger animals ; and we had Shanghai mutton for dinner, frequently, three weeks or more after leaving Japan.

The weather became more and more boisterous as we progressed on our course to the northward and eastward ; and on the 18th and 19th of February, the sea had risen to such a height

that it was found necessary to change the course, so as to bring the ship's head up to its direction, with just sufficient speed to prevent her from falling off into its trough, and insure her steering with greater facility, an expedient which is called, in nautical parlance, "*lying to*." The wind changed suddenly from S.E. to S.W., thereby producing an extremely cross and irregular sea, from which there appeared to be no escape, as it was quite impossible to steer clear of its angry billows ; and the ship was completely deluged with their foaming crests, breaking and tumbling over her sides from the bows to the quarters. One of the large boats on the starboard side was filled with water and carried clean away, davits and all, and that on the opposite side was so seriously endangered, that nothing but the most prompt and seaman-like efforts on the part of the officer of the watch, prevented her sharing the fate of the other, which was the Flag-officer's barge.

The Japanese gave no indication of fear, but, on the contrary, maintained their cheerful and contented demeanor through all the discomforts and annoyances to which they were unavoidably subjected. Many of them were constantly confined to their berths by sea-sickness, but found an imperfect shelter even there, as their rooms were frequently flooded with water, wetting their mats, bedding, and clothing with the briny element, and, of course, rendering it difficult to keep even their persons comfortably dry ; yet they never uttered a syllable of complaint, but appeared to regard all the disagreeables of their position as the inevitable consequence of going to sea. The amiability which they manifested only served to increase the anxiety of the officers to contribute to their comfort by every possible means, and to



endeavor to remedy the defects in the construction of their rooms, occasioned by the slight bulwarks of the ship, and the hasty manner in which the apartments were thrown up.

We crossed the meridian of  $180^{\circ}$  longitude, on the night of the 23d of February, and as we had gained a day by having run so far to the eastward, it became necessary to call the day following the 23d, No. 2, in order to preserve the accuracy of our reckoning, corresponding with the time on shore. This being leap-year, those of us who live to see it out will have had the extraordinary experience of a year of 366 days, a week of eight days, and a month of February containing 30 days. The weather was so inclement on the 22d, that it was quite impracticable to fire the usual salute, but as the day could not be permitted to pass entirely unhonored under the circumstances, and our reckoning of time had been involved in somewhat of a mystery to "*the Japs*," the memory of Washington was celebrated on the 23d, No. 2. by a salute of 21 guns, fired in mid-ocean, with the American ensign at the main. The occasion was marked also by a visit to the ward-room officers from the Embassadors, who came down to drink a glass of Constantia with us, in honor of the memory of him whom they have learned to revere as one of the greatest among the great men of the earth.

The weather continued so unfavorable to our progress, and the consumption of coal had necessarily been so great in comparison with the distance accomplished, that on the 27th the Flag-officer decided to relinquish his original intention of endeavoring to steam directly to San Francisco, and ordered the course to be altered for Honolulu, the capital of the Hawaian Islands,

from which our position was then distant about 1100 miles, the former port being some 700 miles further.

Contrary to our expectations, we did not find much abatement in the force of the prevailing easterly winds as we steamed to the southward, and the ship continued to be exceedingly uneasy and uncomfortable up to the moment that the lee was reached caused by the island of Oahu, which lies in the latitude of the N. E. trade-winds. The island was discovered at about 4 A.M. on the 5th of March, and when I went on deck at daylight, I found the Japanese had swarmed out like ants on a sunny day, all evincing the most exultant feelings of delight at the sight of *terra-firma*—so much so, as to justify the belief that they had entertained serious doubts, up to that time, respecting the honesty of our intentions toward them, and fears, perhaps, of our ever being able to find the land again, after wandering so long over the trackless waste of ocean. No suspicion of the kind was ever expressed, of course, nor did the officials exhibit such exuberant joy as their less intelligent and more artless attendants; though it was quite natural that they should all experience intense satisfaction at the prospect of a few days' respite from the incessant tossing and tumbling of which their experience of sea-life had consisted.

Within a few hours after discovering the land, we anchored in the harbor of Honolulu, where our arrival was hailed with unusual demonstrations of pleasure by our numerous countrymen residing in the place, as more than a year had elapsed since it had been visited by an American man-of-war, and a great desire also existed among them to become acquainted with our interesting passengers.

Captain Taylor, of the marine guard of the Powhatan, had been charged by the Flag-officer with the duty of providing for the comfort and accomodation of the Embassy, and he was sent on shore immediately to procure suitable quarters for it during the stay of the ship in the harbor. He succeeded in hiring an entire hotel for this purpose, and returning to the ship in the course of two or three hours, the Embassy was landed and conveyed to their new home, receiving a parting salute of 15 guns as they left the ship. The wharves were crowded with people as these oriental strangers set foot upon the first foreign soil they had ever trod, and the same intense curiosity to see them was manifested by foreign residents and native *Kanakas*, which subsequently marked their progress through the United States.

*Kamehamaha* IV., the king of the Sandwich, or Hawaiian Islands, as they are called by the residents, hastened to extend to the Embassadors, as soon as he learned that they desired to remain on shore for several days, an invitation to locate themselves in a palace belonging to His Excellency, Mr. Whyllie, Prime Minister of his Government, as it was a more appropriate residence for the distinguished visitors to his kingdom, than the public hotel in which they were placed. His royal courtesy was received with grateful acknowledgements by the Embassadors, but as they had already established themselves at the hotel, they declined changing their quarters; yielding, however, to the suggestion of the United States Commissioner, the Hon. J. W. Borden, that this elegant mansion was the most suitable place to hold their levees, they attended daily, during certain hours, at the "Dudoit House," as it was styled, for the purpose of receiving ceremonial calls. They remained at the hotel only three

days, expressing a preference, after that short experience, for the Powhatan, as they felt more at home, and consequently more comfortable on board than they could do in any palace on the island. The Embassadors were uneasy too, concerning their attendants and servants, who were roaming about the streets of the town with a degree of license hitherto unknown to them, and might become involved in some trouble with the inhabitants, through their ignorance of foreign customs. There was no way of guarding against this while they were living on shore, but on board ship such restrictions could be imposed upon them as would greatly reduce the probabilities of any unpleasant occurrence, by allowing only a limited number to visit the shore daily.

In accordance with a previous arrangement, effected by Commissioner Borden, the Embassadors, attended by Flag-officer Tattnall, and several officers of the Powhatan, were formally presented to the King on the 9th inst. Carriages were in waiting for the party at the landing, where they were met by the Commissioner and his secretary, and conveyed to the palace. Approaching by the long avenue leading up to the building, which is handsome and spacious, our arrival was announced by a military salute from the "Honolulu Rifles," a volunteer corps of foreigners, of which the King is Colonel, and the enlivening sounds of "Hail Columbia" from the Powhatan's band, which had been sent in advance to do honor to the occasion, as the small scion of the stock of royalty whom we were visiting does not sport musicians as a part of his household establishment.

While awaiting the arrival of the Embassadors with their numerous retinue, the Commissioner was desired by the Prime

Minister and Master of Ceremonies, to present the officers of the ship to his Majesty ; and accordingly we all marched into the audience-hall in single file, headed by the representatives of civil and naval authority, the former doing the honors of introduction to the latter, and then to the lesser luminaries who followed in their train. The Flag-officer was welcomed by the King as the conductor to his shores of the distinguished strangers from the Empire of Japan, and assured of the high respect he entertained both for them and for the great country to which they were accredited, as the first messengers of peace and commerce from that rich and interesting country. The remainder of those who had the honor of being presented had to content themselves with marching in at one door and out at another, receiving in the transit a slight bow of recognition from His Majesty when their names were announced by the Commissioner.

The King, who is a remarkably handsome specimen of his race, was dressed in a gorgeous military uniform, consisting of a blue frock richly embroidered, with huge epaulets and a broad red sash adorning the upper part of his person, his lower extremities being encased in a pair of white kersymer trowsers, with a band of gold lace down the outer seam. On a sofa behind him lay the regal robe, made of the yellow feathers from an extremely beautiful and rare bird, found only in the islands of which he is the monarch ; and at each end of this sofa stood two tall natives bearing long staves with huge mops of feathers at their upper ends, resembling sponges for a nine-inch shell gun in size, the shoulders of the bearers being covered with a short cape of the same description as the royal robe.

A few moments after the presentation of the officers was

concluded, the carriages containing the Embassadors and suite, escorted by four officers on horseback in military uniform, were seen coming rapidly up the avenue, and on reaching the entrance of the palace, they were received with similiar honors to those extended to our distinguished chiefs, and shown into an ante-room until their arrival could be formally announced to the King, and the preliminaries of their presentation arranged. But a brief space elapsed before they were conducted into the presence by the Prime Minister and the Commissioner, whereupon, the King delivered a neat little address, through a Dutch interpreter employed for the occasion, to which the principal Embassador responded with expressions of thanks for the courtesies they had received at his Majesty's hands.

The Queen then made her appearance in the audience-hall, attended by a train of twenty ladies-in-waiting, and the same ceremonies were performed in her court which had just been enacted in that of her royal partner. She is a handsome woman, and is said to be very affable and intelligent. The unfortunate ebullition of jealousy which had recently incited the King to an attempt upon the life of his private secretary, Mr. Neilson, was universally conceded to be without foundation in any act of infidelity on the part of the Queen ; but it was evident that the occurrence had cast a shade of melancholy and distrust over their conjugal horizon, which, it is to be hoped, time will dispel.

The departure of the Embassadors from the palace was attended with the same ceremonial etiquette with which they were received, and they were invited to a large ball given in the evening of the same day, at the residence of our excellent countrymen, and former companion-in-arms, Dr. Guillou, in com-

pliment to the officers of the ship, with many of whom he had been associated while a surgeon in the Navy. It was altogether an unique entertainment, exhibiting the remarkable taste, as well as the cordial and genial hospitality of the host.

Both the King and Queen were his guests on the occasion, but the Embassadors declined his invitation, on the ground that they were not at liberty to accept civilities of the sort from any private source until they had been presented to the President of the United States, as it would be disrespectful to that high functionary. Some of the subordinate officials were present, however, among whom "Tommy" was conspicuous in the admiring gaze he kept fixed upon the female portion of the company, to whom he did not hesitate to address himself when the inclination prompted. During the dancing, I observed him seated in a chair immediately behind a young lady who was dancing a quadrille, and as she continued standing for some time, Tommy was struck with the idea that she might be tired, and probably desired a seat; he therefore gave a gentle twitch to her dress to attract her attention, which was somewhat impatiently bestowed on her swarthy admirer, while he repeated the words "Sit down!" in his most insinuating tones, and seemed equally surprised and mortified when she declined the kindly meant courtesy.

The Japanese who were present all seemed highly interested in this their first experience of the style of intercourse existing between American gentlemen and ladies, Namoorá informing me afterward that they all admired extremely the representatives they had seen of the latter sex; but they found it difficult to understand how men could condescend to put themselves on an

equality with women, much less to pay court to them as he had observed them doing.

The lower officials and their attendants were in the daily habit of roaming about the streets; frequently entering the stores to inspect the numerous strange productions of nature and art presented to their notice, and occasionally making a few purchases of small articles. They were received everywhere with kindness and courtesy, the inhabitants of the place all manifesting a disposition to gratify, as far as possible, their laudable thirst for knowledge, even though it was sometimes manifested in rather unceremonious style. On one occasion a lady returning home after an hour's absence, was surprised on entering her chamber to find it occupied by a party of curious and unsophisticated Orientals, who were deeply engaged in endeavoring to fathom the mysteries of the feminine toilet; one of them being arrayed in a handsome silk dress, another intent upon discovering the possible object of a frail lace bonnet, while a third, and the most perplexed of all, was busily engaged in adjusting a hoop skirt around his person, making a running commentary as he did so with regard to its probable use; whether intended as a *cage* for the western women when they were inclined to go astray, or simply as a precautionary measure to guard them from possible danger; the idea of the article being worn voluntarily, and considered ornamental, was evidently the very last thought to suggest itself to the benighted minds of these untaught children of nature. Meanwhile, the lady, whose wardrobe was being subjected to such critical inspection, entered the room, greatly astonished at the scene which presented itself, but with a degree of self-possession and genuine kindness of heart



much to be admired, she advanced with a bland smile to the unexpected and inquisitive guests, and attempted by pantomimic signs to elucidate, for their benefit, the art of feminine adornment. After a brief, and by no means *wordy* discourse on this interesting subject, the fair lecturer politely bowed her audience out of the room, and they departed with evident satisfaction at the information they had acquired.

The artists belonging to the Embassy were untiring in their efforts to obtain correct representations of every object presented to their view, which possessed in their inexperienced eyes either the attraction of novelty, or the charm of beauty, and, indeed, they seemed to regard nothing as too insignificant to merit a place in their sketch-books. All the officers of the ship had already been depicted there in lines of India-ink, which the individuals themselves failed to recognize as their own "counterfeit presentments," but which will doubtless be handed down to Japanese posterity on porcelain cups and vases, as accurate delineations of American physiognomy. Their fondness for sketching was by no means confined to masculine specimens; and while at Honolulu, one of the most enthusiastic artists encountering a lady in the street whose appearance he admired, he arrested her progress by an entreating gesture, and commenced with enthusiastic zeal to transfer the fair apparition—bonnet, hoop, and all—to his book; but as she was not ambitious of being immortalized in that particular style of art, after a momentary pause, she quietly walked on, leaving the discomfited limner in mute amazement and distress. Soon after this disappointment, he encountered a horse and cart, and hastening up to the animal, brought him to a stand, while he drew a likeness of the

entire affair in his sketch-book, and depositing it carefully in his bosom, walked off evidently feeling relieved that his labors had not been in vain, notwithstanding the repulse he had received from the more desirable subject for the display of his art. The cart driver had witnessed the whole proceeding with surprise, of course, but interposed no objection, such vehicles moving generally with becoming laziness in that warm climate.

On the 14th of March, the Hon. Mr. Borden gave a splendid ball at the Dudoit House, in compliment to the officers of the ship, which was attended by all who could be spared from duty on board, and graced by the presence of the King and Queen, with a large assemblage of handsome and agreeable ladies. This was followed by another entertainment of the same description, two days afterward, given by Captain Spencer, of the Honolulu Rifles, who, it was understood, had been compelled to bear the whole expense of the fête by losing a game of *euchre*, played with the King, to decide which of the two should "stand treat" on the occasion; and as it was truly a magnificent affair for that isolated region, this was a question of no small importance. The Captain bore his loss with a cheerful heart, and exhibited true Yankee zeal and admirable taste in the preparations, which were made under his immediate supervision.

The ship had now been prepared for the continuance of her voyage, and was only awaiting a favorable tide to sail for San Francisco, when King Kamehamaha signified his intention of calling on board to pay his respects to the Flag-officer and the Japanese Embassadors. He came attended by a suite of seven or eight of the principal dignitaries of his court, on the 17th, and was received with all the honors due to his elevated position,

comprising a salute of twenty-one guns when he arrived, and another of the same number at his departure, with the yards manned. The diplomatic and consular representatives of all the nations of the earth which sport such expensive luxuries, had visited the ship during her stay in the harbor, and caused such an enormous expenditure of gunpowder, that we had reason to congratulate ourselves upon our proximity to one of Uncle Sam's magazines.

On the 18th we bade adieu to the many pleasing acquaintances and friends, who had made our stay in their midst one continued ovation in honor of the country and the service to which we belonged, and received us with an open-handed hospitality which made it difficult to realize that we were in a foreign land. Steaming out of the harbor late in the afternoon, the course was set again for the "Golden Gate" of San Francisco, and as the weather proved unusually mild and pleasant, the passage to that long-sought haven was accomplished in the short space of ten and a half days, anchoring off the city on the morning of the 29th, with the Japanese flag at the fore, to indicate the presence of the Embassy on board. The revenue cutter Jefferson Davis, at anchor in the harbor, announced the distinguished arrival by a salute of seventeen guns, which was duly returned by the Powhatan, the report of whose guns soon called a tremendous crowd of anxious gazers to the wharves, and a number of visitors on board, to behold the representatives of the populous and wealthy Empire which seemed suddenly to have sprung into existence, and had sent them with a friendly greeting to the *Eureka* of the West.

The anxiety of the Flag-officer to lose no time in replenish-

ing the supply of coal, so that the arrival of the Embassy at Panama should not be unnecessarily delayed, caused him to remove the ship immediately to the Navy Yard at Mare Island, where a deputation from the Board of Supervisors of the City of San Francisco, waited on the Embassadors on the following day, to offer them the hospitalities of the city. The Navy Yard being thirty miles distant, the U. S. steamers Active and Shubrick were dispatched thither to afford a passage to the invited guests, who accordingly embarked early in the morning, accompanied by Commodore Tattnall and several officers of the ship. As they left the yard a salute was fired by the Independence, and the Powhatan proposed firing a similar one; but on the first discharge a very unfortunate accident occurred, which effectually put a stop to the noisy music of the cannon's roar for that day, at least. Commodore Cunningham was standing on the wharf, in a direct line with the muzzle of the gun, and though when warned of his dangerous proximity, he had once or twice changed his position, yet by a singular fatality he returned to the spot, and on the first discharge was thrown down and considerably injured. The shock was at first supposed to have been fatal, but a subsequent examination proved the injuries to have been but slight, and I believe no permanent ill effect was produced. After this the steamers proceeded on their way to the city, which they reached about one o'clock, when the Embassadors and other dignitaries were transferred to carriages, and driven through the principal streets of the place; they were then conducted to the Academy of Music, where the Prominent officials of the city, and other public characters, were formally introduced to them, extending to each individual a grasp of the

hand, as their rank and consequent claim to such honorary distinction was made known. The interesting ceremony of presentation being over, the guests were conducted to another room, where a sumptuous banquet was spread out in tempting style. The Japanese were led to the most distinguished places, at the upper end of the board, and, being seated, the other guests speedily followed their example, and the work of destruction commenced, with no apparent disposition on the part of those present to relax their efforts while anything remained on the table to reward them. The more substantial part of the feast being over, "the flow of soul," and of champagne, ensued—sentiments appropriate to the occasion were exchanged, and speeches made—which I must leave to my readers' imagination, merely telling them that "all went merry as a marriage-bell;" that the entertainment was greatly enjoyed, and at its close the distinguished guests were attended to their carriages, and returned to the Powhatan in the same manner they had come, after passing about 48 hours at the International Hotel, in the quiet seclusion which they seemed to prefer, and with good taste on that occasion, as the rain continued to pour in torrents nearly the whole time.

The freedom of the city was extended to the entire Embassy, and also to the officers of the Powhatan, none of them being allowed to pay their own hotel bills, or carriage hire, during their stay in the place, and the inhabitants generally evincing a friendly interest in every one connected with the ship or the Embassy. The Japanese were delighted with everything they saw, and as a practical demonstration of their gratitude for the attentions shown them, as well as to gratify the curiosity of

their friends at home, whole car loads of cloths, blankets, carpets, etc., were purchased and placed on board their little steamer *Candimar*, then undergoing repairs at the Mare Island Navy Yard, for transportation to Japan.

This vessel had arrived at San Francisco a fortnight previous, and after remaining a few days off the city, during which she was an object of universal attraction, she was taken to the Navy Yard for the purpose of being placed on the dock and receiving such repairs as were necessary. The Admiral and the Japanese Captain, together with the officers of the vessel generally, were received by the citizens of the place with the most enthusiastic and liberal hospitality, and made to feel themselves quite at home among their newly-acquired friends. They had become so much attached to Lieutenant Brooke during the voyage from Yedo, that he was consulted with regard to every movement, and relied upon with the most implicit confidence. As an evidence of their appreciation of his kind and efficient services, the Admiral requested him, a few days before his leaving for Panama in the mail steamer, to help himself to any amount he chose to take out of an iron chest, which, he informed him, contained \$80,000, an invitation which he was, of course, compelled to decline, though the sincerity of the Admiral's offer was beyond a question. Lieutenant Brooke had been too highly gratified by the opportunity of being the first to introduce these interesting strangers to his own country and people, to seek or desire any other reward, and the officers of the *Candimar* proved their worthiness of the attentions he bestowed upon them by the gratitude manifested toward him when about to part. The subsequent return of this steamer to Yedo created great

excitement, and a much more friendly feeling toward Americans was manifested by the people, as the immediate result of her short but prosperous visit to our shores.

On the arrival of the Powhatan at San Francisco, I was ordered to return to the Atlantic States by a Board of Medical Surveyors, in consequence of the impaired state of my health ; and upon leaving the ship, Lieutenant Trenchard succeeded me as the Executive officer. I am indebted to him for notes of the passage to Panama, to which place I proceeded in the mail steamer of the 5th April, accompanied by Commodore Tattnall and Captain Taylor—the former desiring to precede the Embassy in their arrival at Washington, as a matter of expediency to the Government, and the latter having been detailed by him to escort the Embassadors across the Isthmus of Panama and to the United states.

The Powhatan took her departure from Mare Island on the 5th of April, the "Independence" receiving-ship at the Navy Yard firing a parting salute to the Embassadors as she steamed away from her moorings. Reaching San Francisco in the afternoon of the same day, she remained there until the 7th, for the purpose of enabling the Embassadors to exchange the Mexican dollars they had brought from Japan for American gold. This financial arrangement being satisfactorily concluded, the frigate got under way for Panama on the afternoon of the 7th ; and as she steamed out of the harbor, the fort on Alcatraz Island fired a salute of 17 guns, displaying the Japanese flag, which was returned by the Powhatan.

### III.

The passage to Panama was accomplished in smooth, calm weather, and the Embassadors embraced the opportunity afforded by their respite from the horrors of sea-sickness, to make more frequent visits to the officers of the ward-room mess than they had hitherto been able to do. They evinced a strong desire to cultivate the most friendly social relations with the officers; and expressed sincere regret that the time was so near at hand when the agreeable associations they had formed on board the Powhatan were to be severed, perhaps never to be renewed. It was but natural that they should have become warmly attached to those with whom they had been thrown as strangers, and from whom they had received the most respectful attentions and unremitting kindness, without the occurrence of a single untoward or disagreeable incident to mar their contentment, during their confinement of seventy-six days within the narrow limits of a ship. With the true instinct of native gentility, they seemed to apprehend that their presence on board had exposed the officers to personal inconveniences, at which they expressed great regret, and were assured in return that the attentions shown them were due not only to their elevated positions in their own country, and as the guests of ours, but also to their personal claims upon our friendly regard.

When the ship reached the warm latitudes near Panama, the Japanese appeared to suffer much more with the heat than any others on board, owing, probably, to the fact that they had never been exposed in their highly favored country, to the vicissitudes of climate which form the common experience of the inhabitants of ours, and especially of sea-faring men. Their fans



were in constant requisition, and they were charmed with a *punka* which had been hung over the ward-room table in the early part of the cruise ; frequently sitting in the ward-room for hours, to enjoy the refreshing drafts created by its agitation ; and always preserving the mild equanimity of temper and gentleness of manner for which they were so eminently distinguished. The *punka* afforded a most interesting sketch to the ever watchful artists, who expressed a determination to have this cooling "institution" introduced into their own houses on their return to Japan.

The Powhatan reached the anchorage off Panama on the 23d of April, and the U. S. ship Lancaster, the flag-ship of the Pacific squadron, being at anchor in the bay, immediately fired the usual salute in honor of the arrival of the Embassadors, who were welcomed by Flag-officer Montgomery, and the officers generally attached to the men-of-war present.

Captain Gardner, of the steam-frigate Roanoke, and Captain Taylor, of the Marine corps, went over from Aspinwall to pay their respects to the Embassadors, and to make arrangements for their immediate transportation across the Isthmus, in the special train which had already been provided for them, and on the following day the Embassy left the ship under a salute of 21 guns from the Powhatan, Lancaster, and Saranac, embarking in the small steam tender of the P.M. Steamship Company, for the railroad station. On their arrival at that point, they were greeted by the authorities of the city of Panama, with all the honors due to their rank, and escorted to the cars, in which they left immediately for Aspinwall. The train was stopped for a short time at "the summit," to enable the Embassy to partake

of a handsome collation prepared by the Railroad Company, after which their journey was resumed, and the passage of the Isthmus accomplished in shorter time than on any previous occasion.

On reaching Aspinwall, the boats of the Roanoke and of the frigate Sabine were found in waiting to convey the Embassy to their new home, and the whole party were speedily and safely embarked, and proceeded at once to the Flag-ship. Commodore McCluney's barge took the lead, conveying the six principal officials, Captain Gardner, of the Roanoke, and Captain Taylor. The Embassadors were received on board the Roanoke with the most distinguished honors—the officers of the ship were all present in full uniform—the drums rolled out a noisy welcome, the marines presented arms, and the "pomp and circumstance" of the ceremonial reception, was sufficiently imposing to have impressed favorably even a less imaginative people than the Japanese. Flag-officer McCluney received them at the gangway, and upon being introduced by the Chief Interpreter, cordially welcomed them in the name of the Government and people of the United States. An ambassadorial salute of 17 guns was then fired from the Flag-ship, with the Imperial ensign of Japan flying at the fore ; and after an acknowledgment of the courtesy to their Emperor, and an expression of thanks for their own distinguished and cordial reception, the chief officials of the party were introduced to the officers assembled on the quarter-deck, and afterward invited into the cabin.

The English frigate Emerald, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Milne, arrived at Aspinwall on the same day with the Embassy ; and the Admiral and his officers were invited to be

present at the reception of the Japanese on board the Roanoke, but the invitation was not accepted by the Admiral, nor did he have the courtesy to fire a salute in honor of the Embassadors, which, under the circumstances, ought certainly to have been done.

Everything being in readiness, the Roanoke weighed anchor on the day following, (April 26th), and proceeded to Porto Bello for a supply of water, which could not be procured at Aspinwall ; having obtained which, she sailed again on the 27th, for New York.

During the stay of the Roanoke at the watering-place, the officers and servants attached to the Embassy were permitted to go on shore ; and they were all greatly pleased by the fruits, birds, and animals which came under their observation, taking accurate sketches of everything which they regarded as rare and curious.

On the 9th of May, the Roanoke arrived at Sandy Hook, in thirteen days from Aspinwall, but here orders were delivered to Flag-officer McCluney, from the Navy Department, directing him not to enter the port of New York, but to proceed at once to Hampton Roads, where a steamer would be in readiness to convey the Embassy direct to Washington. It is needless to say that this order was productive of feelings of profound disgust and disappointment among the officers and crew of the ship, who had been long absent from home, and were naturally anxious to return to their friends with as little delay as possible. The arrangement, however, met the full approval of the Japanese, whose wishes it was most important to consult in the premises, as in accordance with their ideas of official etiquette it was proper to present their credentials to the Government before

receiving any civilities, or making any acquaintances in the country. The steamer Philadelphia had been chartered by the Navy Department, and despatched to Hampton Roads to meet the Roanoke, and transport the Embassy direct to Washington, via the Potomac river; and a very select party, not exceeding eight in number, went down in her as a committee of reception, to welcome the illustrious strangers to the model republic. They arrived in the Roads on the evening of the 13th of May, and the following morning the chartered steamer proceeded thither, and anchored at a distance of about eighty paces from her big sister.

The scene was bright and animated in the extreme; the sea was smooth, the sky unclouded, and all nature seemed to smile auspiciously on the friendly meeting of east and west. The deck of the Roanoke was lined with glittering uniforms, while every available spot was filled by curious and pleased spectators. The committee of reception were soon on board, and after some preliminary arrangements, the ceremony of presentation took place in the cabin. The members of the Embassy being arranged according to rank, Captain Taylor advanced, and introduced the committee of reception. Captain Dupont made a brief address, saying: "Embassadors! I welcome you in the name of the President of the United States, who has anxiously expected your arrival, and will be pleased to learn that you are well. I bid you welcome" Captain Dupont then presented Mr. Ledyard, who said: "I come expressly charged by the Secretary of State, to inquire after your health, and to bid you welcome." Here the Interpreter explained that the Secretary of State was Premier and second officer to the President. The Embassadors

replied to Captain Dupont and Mr. Ledyard, by saying they were much pleased to make their acquaintance, and grateful for the attentions shown them; they were, also, obliged to Mr. Ledyard, and the officers personally, for the trouble they had taken in coming so far to meet them.

Captain Dupont then requested the Embassadors to name the hour when it would be convenient to accompany him on board the Philadelphia, to which they replied, that three o'clock would suit them; and, accordingly, at that hour they left the Roanoke, taking an affectionate leave of the officers.

The members of the Japanese commission were divided into two parties, one in favor of, and the other adverse to foreign intercourse. The Chief Embassador represented the former class, while the assistants leaned to the non-intercourse side. Each party was required to make a report to the Tycoon for the benefit of the nation; upon these reports, and the national verdict thereon, will depend greatly the result as to our success or failure in Japan.

The Princes were much surprised to learn that their expenses were to be defrayed by the United States; they came prepared with ample funds to meet all demands upon them, and appeared to regard the national hospitality as the handsomest compliment they had received, and the most marked evidence of their being welcome and highly honored guests.

The Embassadors having accepted the invitation of the commanding officer, at Fortress Monroe, to pay a brief visit to the fortifications, the original intention of landing them first at the Capital was waived, and the steamer conveyed them to Old Point. Preparations for their reception were hastily made, and

the troops of the garrison drawn up in a hollow square to receive them ; after walking around the fort, and inspecting the guns, etc., with much curiosity and interest, they returned to the steamer, which got under way immediately for Washington, reaching that place on the 15th of May, where they were received at the Navy Yard wharf, by the officers of the yard and the Mayor and Council of the city, with due form and ceremony.

The utmost enthusiasm pervaded all classes ; had the visitors been a deputation from the moon, greater excitement could not have attended their advent ; dignified senators, supercilious dandies, and delicate ladies, having for the moment a common topic of interest with the democratic masses which thronged the streets. Curious crowds occupied every position whence they could hope to obtain a glimpse of the mysterious strangers, who, meanwhile, remained perfectly calm and unmoved by the bustle and turmoil which raged around them ; regarding the thousands of eager and excited faces, and restless forms which hemmed them in on all sides, with the same mild expression which a thoughtful student sometimes casts on the tumultuous population of an ant hill. On their arrival at Willard's hotel, they were immediately conducted to the apartments prepared for them, and, at last, mercifully permitted to seek the repose which must have been so much needed after the fatigue they had undergone, and the constraint necessarily imposed by the presence of strangers, whose language they could not understand, save through the medium of an Interpreter. I had the doubtful pleasure, under the circumstances, of accompanying two of the principal officials in their carriage ; and as frequent interruptions to our progress were occasioned by the slow progress of

the military companies in front, I was accosted by numerous inquisitive females, desiring to be informed whether my companions were "men or women," to which I replied, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, they belonged to the class usually styled "lords of the creation," and that they might rely upon the correctness of my statement, inasmuch as I should certainly have discovered them in any disguise they might have assumed as members of the gentle sex, during the sixty days we had passed together on board ship.

The hotel arrangements for the accommodation of the nation's guests were on the most liberal scale. Sixty rooms were set apart for them, comprising the most spacious and elegant apartments in the house, many of which were refurnished for the occasion, and ornamented in a style to please the known taste of the Japanese for articles of artistic workmanship, and tasteful design. Bronzes and paintings in profusion decorated the mantles and the walls, and everything looked bright and showy, in the manner which Eastern people are presumed to admire. There was an almost uninterrupted line of communication between the rooms, in order to secure the privacy which they might think desirable, and ample facilities for extensive ablutions were provided, the Japanese, like most Oriental nations, indulging almost to excess in the luxury of the bath.

The morning after their arrival, they had an interview with the Secretary of State, which was strictly private. Some little conversation took place, through the medium of the Interpreter, and certain official papers were presented by the Embassadors, presumed to be their credentials.

The manners of the Japanese possess in a very high degree

the requisites of true prolieness; they are never presuming, officious, nor arrogant; and if they are sometimes bored or impatient in their social intercourse, they possess strong powers of concealment, as no feelings of the kind are ever permitted to become visible. They are apparently always in a good humor, and this inward light reflects cheerfully from their mild and amiable faces, forming a marked contrast to the care-worn and irritable expression, which we see constantly in the most refined civilized society; and it would certainly appear, that with all our intellectual supremacy, and spiritual enlightenment, we might yet learn from the unchristianized Japanese the secret of inward happiness and contentment; they "having no law, are yet a law to themselves," and they appear to carry out its highest spirit in their general intercourse with each other. They are particularly observant of official etiquette, and never allow their own engagements, or pleasure, to interfere with what they consider the paramount claims of the "ruling powers."

A deputation from Congress waited on them shortly after their arrival, to extend an invitation to visit the Capitol; but they declined naming a day for the purpose until after their reception by the President, nor would they reply to the municipal invitations from New York, Philadelphia, and elsewhere, until this important ceremonial visit had been paid.

The 17th of May was the day appointed for the momentous interview, and at the appointed hour, the Embassadors, attended by their officers and the members of the Naval Commission, proceeded with much pomp and ceremony to the President's House. They were conveyed in open carriages, having a number of mounted policemen in front and rear, while the



marines and ordnance men marched on each side of the vehicles. The streets were crowded with spectators, many of whom followed the procession to the President's. Meanwhile, a brilliant company had assembled within the mansion, and the famous East-room was crowded to its utmost capacity; there were a large number of ladies present, with members of Congress, and others holding prominent public positions.

The officers of the Navy formed a line on one side of the room, and prominent among them appeared Commodore Tattnall, late Flag-officer of the East India squadron, under whose auspices the Embassy came to the United States. Opposite, another line was formed by the Army officers, General Scott's tall form towering above the rest. Between these was an open space about five feet wide, where the scene of the grand presentation, anticipated with much intense interest by all present, was about to be performed.

At noon the folding-doors were thrown open to admit the President of the United States, attended by the Cabinet officers. These dignitaries having arranged themselves in an imposing attitude, and assumed the most gracious air, and seductive sweetness of expression, which their respective features could be induced to wear, Secretary Cass retired to the ante-room, and soon returned ushering in the Embassadors and their suite, who made repeated and profound bows as they advanced toward the galaxy of bright stars at present illuminating our political horizon, keeping their eyes persistently bent on the ground, as if dazzled by the splendor of the concentrated rays. One of the Embassadors then opened a series of boxes enclosed one within

another, and produced several letters, which were handed to the President, and by him transferred to the Secretary of State. The Chief Envoy then addressed the President in the following language :

“ His Majesty, the Tycoon, has commanded us respectfully to express to His Majesty, the President of the United States, as follows :

“ Desiring to establish on a firm and lasting basis the relations of peace and commerce so happily existing between the two countries – that lately the Plenipotentiaries of both nations have negotiated and concluded a Treaty, now he has ordered us to exchange the ratification of the treaty in your principal city of Washington. Henceforth, he hopes that the friendly relations shall be held, more and more lasting, and be very happy to have your friendly feelings. That you have brought us to the United States and will send us back in your man-of-war.”

Having delivered their message they left the room, bowing repeatedly to the President and Cabinet as they retired. They soon, however, re-entered, making the same lowly obeisances as before, when the President made the following reply\*—Mr. Portman interpreting to the Japanese Interpreter, and the latter communicating with the principal Envoy.

The President handed them a copy of his address, and then shook hands with each. The subordinate Japanese officials were afterward brought in and introduced.

A few days subsequently to the formal reception by the President, there was an arrangement made for the three Doctors attached to the Embassy, to meet a Committee of gentlemen of the

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\* The text has already been given in the foregoing diary.

same profession, for the discussion of professional subjects. The interview took place in the Governor's private parlor, and at the appointed hour, the oriental physicians took their seats in the order of their rank, and the Medical Committee shortly after entered the room. After brief salutations were exchanged, the Japanese were seated opposite the Americans, with a table between, at the end of which were Mr. Portman, the English Interpreter, and the second Japanese Interpreter.

Dr. Evans commenced the conversation, by saying that the medical profession were much gratified at the new tie which had been formed with Japan, and hoped that mutual advantages to the cause of science would result from an interchange of knowledge, adding, that any attentions which might be deemed useful or agreeable, would be gladly extended to the Doctors by their brethren in Washington. The Japanese acknowledged and reciprocated the fraternal feeling implied, and after the exchange of these little courtesies, through the medium of the Interpreters, the main object of the meeting was proceeded with. The questions had previously been prepared with much care, and were briefly and clearly worded, bearing on radical points of the healing art. In answer to the inquiry as to the preparation necessary to the practice of medicine in Japan, Dr. Mesaka\* replied that the training commenced at a very early age; books on the science were studied at school, and when the student was deemed sufficiently advanced and competent to practise, he was placed in one of the public hospitals for the sick poor, which are supported by Government, and there afforded opportunity for observation and experience. If his course is creditably filled in

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\* Miyazaki.

this position, he finally receives a diploma which gives him a legal claim to the title of Physician, and he is then at liberty to pursue his profession. The English *Materia Medica* was then concisely and clearly explained to the Japanese, who listened with great apparent interest, one of them taking copious notes. They appeared perfectly willing to give in return all the information they possessed with regard to their own mode of practice. Medical men in Japan are familiar with the circulation of the blood through the arteries; leeches were formerly used when depletion was required, but recently an innovation has been made in this respect, and bleeding is now a part of the regular practice. Dissection under a system recently introduced is now employed in Japan; amputation is never performed, though one of the party had read a treatise on the subject. Midwifery is a branch of the science with which the Doctors (except those who make it their exclusive business) never interfere, unless in very difficult cases. Their treatment of women during childbirth is very similar to that of our own physicians, rather more simple, perhaps, in a few particulars, but employing the same kind of instruments, and generally proving successful. The question was then asked: "What virtue is ascribed in Japan to spiritual influence or that of the stars in the treatment of diseases?" and answered as follows: "The higher classes of Japanese—those who possess any degree of cultivation—do not believe that planetary, or spiritual influence, has any power in the treatment of diseases, but among the lower orders, such a superstition certainly prevails." The Doctors were told that this was also the case in America.

The medicines used in Japan are chiefly of vegetable origin

—mostly barks in a state of decoction. Compound drugs are rarely used—minerals scarcely ever—although the Japanese faculty are familiar with quicksilver. Quinine is obtained from the Dutch, and is given in very small quantities; from one to three grains being the average dose, and ten grains being the maximum dose in extraordinary cases of fever. The celebrated *Dosia* powder, the secret of which is supposed to be known only in Japan, was explained to be a species of sand derived from a mineral, which is blown into the nostrils of the dead, and rubbed over the limbs, producing flexibility in the corpse and apparent revival.

The Japanese Doctors inquired what species of plant produced the worm seed, and if they could see it; and were much gratified by a promise to show them either the plant itself, or plates representing it.

The interview closed by the Japanese requesting the cards of their visitors, and saluting them with cordial and impressive farewells.

Shortly after the official interview at the President's, the Embassadors, with the principal members of their suite, attended a handsome entertainment given in their honor by the Secretary of State; and although it is considered highly indecorous for a Japanese of rank to be seen abroad after sunset, yet it was necessary to waive their national points of etiquette on this occasion, and accept the hospitalities extended to them in their official capacity, by one of the chief officers of the Government. All the notabilities of fashion were, of course, present on the occasion. The foreign legations were fully represented, the Members of the Cabinet were all visible, and large deputations

from both houses of Congress. The oriental guests were led in by the officers of the Naval Commission, and after walking once around the rooms, were deposited on lounges, and retained their seats during the greater part of the visit. The Embassadors devoted about an hour to the entertainment, and withdrew, after partaking of refreshments.

After the official visits and receptions were over, the members of the Embassy visited the various objects of interest in Washington — the Capitol—the Smithsonian Institute — the Patent Office, and other places of popular attraction. The curiosity of the populace appeared to be satiated during the latter part of their stay in the city, and they were, in consequence, able to circulate about more freely, without being exposed to the annoyance of a gaping, noisy crowd.

They visited both houses of Congress, and displayed great interest with regard to the mode of conducting the legislative proceedings of Government in the United States. The Princes and six of their officers were received on the floor of the Senate-chamber, where seats were provided for them ; they were afterward conducted by the Congressional committee to the position in the House appropriated to the diplomatic corps. Mr. Portman, for the committee, explained to them the nature of the proceedings.

A few days subsequently, they visited the Navy Yard, in company with two of the Naval Commission, and were received by Captain Buchanan, and welcomed in a brief and appropriate speech, which was feelingly responded to by the Chief Envoy. They were taken around the yard, and manifested much interest in the works going on in the various departments. The forging

of a large anchor excited great astonishment, as did, also, the boiler destined for the new steamer Pensacola, which they examined very closely. They next visited the machine department, where the immense engine, intended for the Pensacola, drew forth their wondering comments. In the ordnance department, they found much to interest them ; the manufacture, and mode of filling, percussion caps ; the making of Minie rifle balls, and the casting of a brass howitzer, with the manner of finishing it off, elicited very flattering remarks on American skill and enterprise. The chief Commissioner himself was greatly interested in this establishment, and gave unmistakable evidence of his gratification and surprise at our Yankee resources. After this, the Embassadors sat for their photographs in the open air, the officers of the Yard, with those of the Embassy, and the Reporters, being arranged in a group behind. The exercise of the celebrated Dahlgren gun and howitzer appeared highly satisfactory to them, causing their eyes to dilate with pleased surprise, as they watched the balls skimming along over the surface of the river.

On the 15th of June, the Embassadors had a final interview with the President, in which they expressed their appreciation of his friendly feelings toward them, and their thanks for the very kind treatment they had received in Washington ; adding, that on their return to Japan, a full account of their visit would be submitted to the Tycoon, who would be greatly pleased with it, and would endeavor to strengthen and increase the friendly relations so happily established between the two countries.

The President expressed pleasure that the Embassadors had been gratified by their visit to the United States, and said, he

congratulated himself that an historical event of so much importance as the advent of the first Japanese Embassy, should have transpired during his administration, and hoped that the interesting visit would be the means of cementing more strongly the amicable relations between the two countries; closing his address with personal good wishes, for a safe return of the Embassadors to their native shores. The address was received with profound acknowledgment, and the President then presented three medals in gold for the Embassadors, twenty in silver for the officers of their suite, and fifty in bronze for the attendants, which had been struck in commemoration of the first Japanese Embassy.

The farewell official interview being over, there was nothing to detain the Embassadors in Washington; and they accordingly left shortly afterward for Baltimore, in compliance with the invitation to visit that city, which had been extended to them by the authorities. There was no public demonstration attending their departure from the capital; but they were conveyed quietly to the rail-road depot, without the show and parade which marked their arrival.

A salute of 17 guns announced the appearance of the special train at the Baltimore station; there the Embassadors and suite were transferred to carriages, and under the escort of the military, of the city and State authorities, were taken to the Maryland Institute, where the formal reception by the Mayor was arranged to take place. After this ceremony was over, the procession re-formed, and passed through some of the principal streets to the Gilmore House, where quarters had been provided for the Embassy. Thousands upon thousands of people thronged



the streets through which the procession passed, and the windows of every house were filled with ladies; every demonstration of curiosity and interest was displayed, but there was no violence or disorder. Each Ambassador had a separate carriage, and was attended by a member of the Naval Commission; they showed great indifference or reserve of manner, as if their thoughts were completely abstracted from the scene around them, and appearing to ignore entirely the existence of the excited and curious crowd. The subordinates, however, manifested great interest in all that was passing around them, returning salutations, and by their affable expression and courteous gestures, exciting much enthusiasm among the "great unwashed," by whom they were surrounded. In the evening, the visitors were entertained with a very beautiful display of fireworks, with which they appeared greatly pleased.

The next morning they left for Philadelphia in a special train; the engine was gaily decorated with flags and flowers, and the cars were also appropriately ornamented, the national colors of Japan and the United States festooned the sides, and hung in graceful folds from the top. At Havre de Grace, the party was met by a deputation from the City Councils of Philadelphia, who were cordially welcomed by Captain Dupont as they entered the cars, and by him introduced to the Ambassadors. A short address was made by the committee, tendering the hospitalities of the city they represented to the illustrious strangers, and briefly responded to by the Chief Ambassador.

At different points on the road, large crowds of people from the surrounding country were assembled, to catch a fleeting glimpse of the orientals; and as they passed through such places,

the speed of the train was slackened for the purpose of gratifying the curiosity of the expectant throng. The stately Embassadors rarely condescended to glance toward the enthusiastic Americans; the subordinates alone returned the popular greeting; the windows in the servants' car were opened, and the inmates returned the shouts of the people by clapping of hands, bows, and exclamations of "Good! hurrah!" and other words which they had contrived to pick up since leaving Japan. At Wilmington, several thousand people were assembled in the streets through which the cars passed; and as the train slowly advanced, it was greeted by the multitude with loud cheers; a number of fire companies were also present, whose bells rang out a vociferous welcome to the stranger guests; but whether or not the effect was agreeable to the nerves of the quiet and undemonstrative orientals, will probably never be known until the Japanese historian favors the world with *his* impressions on the subject. The train was stopped at some distance from Elkton, by order of Captain Dupont, to give the Embassadors an opportunity of examining the locomotive, and of taking a ride on the iron horse, should they think proper to do so; but their courage only sufficed to enable them to mount, when, finding the position by no means luxurious, they quickly descended from the "bad eminence" they had attained, and returned to their more comfortable seats in the cars; Tommy being the only one courageous enough to continue his journey in such *infernal style*, for the fiery sparks, the noisy din, and lightning speed of the engine must have suggested the idea of a ride through Pluto's dominions. The excitable Tommy held on his way without shrinking, however, beguiling the time by spasmodic discourse

with the engineer and firemen, and occasionally ringing the bell by way of giving variety to the scene. At half past three, the train arrived at the Philadelphia depot, where they were received by the Mayor and City Council, and welcomed in a brief address by the former. The Chief Ambassador returned thanks, through the Interpreter, in a few words, and said they all anticipated much pleasure from their visit to Philadelphia. Immediately after this, the Embassadors were led to their carriages, each attended by a member of the Naval Commission; as soon as the chief dignitaries were seated, the other carriages were rapidly filled, and passed on to take their places in the line of procession, which soon began to move forward. Upon emerging from the depot, the Embassadors were saluted by the assembled troops, and greeted with prolonged cheers by an immense throng of people. The military were out in full force, and made a fine appearance; most of the companies were attended by bands of music, which sent forth enlivening strains as the procession slowly passed through the densely crowded streets; every available place throughout the line of route was filled, and the eye dwelt only on a sea of human heads, which swayed to and fro under irrepressible excitement, like the restless waves of ocean. The excitement of the scene awakened no corresponding emotion, apparently, in the bosoms of the princely guests; but the lower officials were more sympathetic, and during the progress of the procession, were constantly bowing to, and exchanging smiles with the crowd. At one point of the journey, Tommy is said to have created much amusement, by imprinting a loving kiss on the cheek of a young lady who held out her hand to him in friendly greeting; this he laid hold of, and so

drew her near enough to accomplish the salute. The lower officials seemed disposed to enjoy themselves, and many of them sought comfort in the soothing refreshment of their pipes, while they calmly surveyed the excited multitude, which they favored with an occasional nod, or a courteous and condescending wave of the hand. As the procession neared the hotel, the crowd became extremely dense and unmanageable ; an immense police force was on duty near this point, and they were assisted in their efforts to clear a passage and preserve order by U. S. marines, and two of the mounted volunteer companies, which formed into line on the north side of the street ; but it was with extreme difficulty they succeeded in keeping back the throng sufficiently to admit of the carriages being driven up to the hotel, where their occupants alighted at the private entrance, and were immediately conducted to the apartments prepared for their reception. After they had rested for a few moments, they were taken out on the balcony to see the military file pass ; and this being over, they retired to their rooms, and remained invisible during the rest of the evening, and the following day, which was Sunday. They were very anxious, during their stay in the United States, to improve themselves in the English language ; and many of them had vocabularies of the English, Dutch, French, and Japanese lying about in their rooms.

During the stay of the Japanese in Philadelphia, they were shown most of the principal objects of interest in the city, and visited many of the machine-shops and manufacturing establishments, in which they appeared to take great interest ; evidently considering the acquirement of useful, practical information the first object to be considered. One of the members of the Naval

Commission took several of them to one of the type foundries in this city, where the operations of the stereotype department were explained to their evident satisfaction. They were especially interested in the type casting rooms ; and as, one by one, they saw the type drop in rapid succession from the machines, one of them called out, with the enthusiasm of a discoverer : " Bullets —shot all the same ; all the same at Washington Navy Yard." They had seen the process of making shot there, and they now observed that type were cast in a somewhat similar manner. The Japanese evidently have the organ of comparison very largely developed. The engraving and electrotyping department at once revived their recollections of similar operations which had been explained to them at the Coast Survey office in Washington. Many of the principal stores were visited and purchases made of such articles as pleased their fancy ; their taste in the selection of books differed somewhat from the usual run, though it doubtless exhibited much practical good sense ; they seemed to prefer dictionaries, travellers' guide-books, views of American cities and scenery, etc. Classic works, and the most popular novels, were alike regarded with supreme indifference, not even a passing glance being vouchsafed to them. The Embassadors received numerous presents during their stay in the city, of the various articles manufactured there, and they will certainly take back to Japan a favorable impression of the mechanical skill and manufacturing resources of Philadelphia. The offerings were of the most varied character, from playing-cards to a sewing-machine, which latter they learned to use with great facility.

During their stay in Philadelphia they visited the Mint, and

examined with great interest the coin of our country in its various stages of preparation. Their first visit was paid to the room where the original packages of the precious metals are melted ; a small bar of California gold was exhibited to them, which they appeared to appreciate at once, and a note of it was immediately made in the memorandam books of the Secretaries. Leaving the melting-rooms, they next examined the process of rolling, and expressed great admiration at the machinery by which it was accomplished ; the way in which the coins are cut from the metal was also explained. The Japanese were admitted behind the railings which enclose the wonder-working machines, and through the interpreters each movement was made known to them. The polishing and whitening department was next entered ; then the milling-room ; and the delicate balance for weighing gold was then closely inspected, and appeared to afford the utmost satisfaction to all present. After sufficient examination of this instrument, which in its operation seems to be almost endued with reason, the weighing of coins separately was noted ; and the party, taking a brief look into the refinery, returned to the Assay office (all other visitors being excluded), for the purpose of learning by what process the fineness and value of coins are ascertained at the Mint, and also to see a test of their own coins in comparison with those of the United States. One great object of their visit, it appears, is to establish a clear understanding on the currency question, so as to regulate the exchange of coin between the two countries. According to the usual routine, pieces were first cut from some of their coin, and from ours, the slips were then rolled out and taken to the delicate assay balance. But here the Censor interposed an objection ; he

said it would give no satisfaction to their Government to test only a small cutting—the trial must be made upon a whole coin at least, and more if practicable. In fact, they appeared quite unable to comprehend our idea of an assay, or, at least, had no faith in it. The gold in a certain number of pieces must all be taken out and weighed by itself, and then, in comparison with the original weight of the coins, a calculation would show the value. Of course their idea is correct, but it is a much neater and simpler operation, and more reliable, to take only a small part, usually a half gram, or  $7\frac{3}{4}$  grains. All the apparatus for assaying at the Mint is adjusted to this mode, and will not admit of taking whole pieces, or several pieces together, which is more properly the business of a refiner than of an assayer. No reasoning, however, had the least effect in changing their views ; they were polite, but adhered to their original opinion. In fact, their visit was not for the purpose of learning our mode of assaying, but to satisfy themselves with regard to the relative fineness of their coin and ours, and of course to see if we knew how to demonstrate the matter. The officers of the Mint then yielded to their wishes, and agreed to melt down several of the gold pieces together ; and to put the melt through a refining process ; but as the morning had by this time nearly passed, it was found necessary to make another appointment for the purpose. Subsequently, the officers of the Mint called on the Embassadors, by request, at the hotel, when a very interesting discussion took place, which lasted for some time. The mode of ascertaining by analysis the amount of gold, silver, and copper, contained in certain coins of the United States and of the Empire of Japan, and their comparison respectively, was finally decided on to their

satisfaction.

The firemen's parade, on the evening previous to the departure of the Embassy for New York, was the culminating point of the entertainment prepared for them, and appeared to afford great pleasure. Some of them, at first, seemed alarmed at the fiery showers which were hurled from hundreds of Roman candles, and drew back into the shelter of their rooms, others covered their heads to protect them from the blazing ruins, but they soon discovered the fire to be harmless and gave themselves up to the full enjoyment of the brilliant and exciting scene. As the last company defiled past the hotel, the Japanese bowed their adieux, and in less than a minute afterward not a shaven head remained visible, they evidently regarded the procession as a ceremonial which it was proper for them to see, but as soon as it was over, felt at liberty to consult their own comfort by seeking repose without delay. The parade being over, and the orientals asleep, it was obviously necessary for the spectators also to retire, which they accordingly did, and before midnight silence and darkness reigned supreme.

The next morning the members of the Embassy were up early, making arrangements for their departure from the city. There was much packing to be done at the last moment, and many farewell words to be said. Soon after nine o'clock the exodus from the hotel commenced, and in half an hour the last of the Japanese had taken his departure. The persons in the streets waved their hats and handkerchiefs to the departing guests, who courteously returned the greeting, and they arrived at the wharf, which was kept clear by a strong police force, without being subjected to any annoyance. A special train was chartered, at



the expense of the United States, to convey the Embassy to Amboy, where the Philadelphia Committee formally transferred the National guests to the Municipal deputation sent on from New York to meet them. Some time was occupied in transferring the passengers and their baggage from the cars to the boat waiting to receive them; as soon as this was accomplished, the latter got under way for New York, having the flag of America and Japan flying in friendly union side by side, while the inspiring notes of the band were nearly drowned in the enthusiastic cheers of the people. The arrival of the Embassy was announced by a salute from the Battery, from Governor's Island, and from the shipping in the harbor—most of which were gaily dressed with flags. The Embassadors were received at the landing by the Governor of the State and the Municipal authorities. The military display was very imposing, nearly seven thousand men being under arms as a guard of honor. The Embassy were seated in open barouches, each drawn by white horses, and conveyed by a somewhat circuitous route to the quarters prepared for them at the Metropolitan Hotel. Passing into the building by the front entrance, which was canopied with Japanese and American flags, the guests were conducted up a wide stair-case, also draped with flags, and entwined with myrtles and evergreens, to the balcony over the main entrance, from whence they beheld the military and civic display which had formed their escort, and also enjoyed a fine and extended view of Broadway. In the evening the hotel was splendidly illuminated, and numerous transparencies were suspended from the windows, each displaying the American and Japanese colors; at a later hour the orientals were serenaded by Dodworth's

celebrated band, but it is very doubtful whether this latter compliment was properly appreciated, the music most admired by the Japanese, at home, being a combination very unlike *our* "concord of sweet sounds."

The hotel arrangements were on a most magnificent scale, each of the Embassadors having a spacious suite of rooms fitted up in splendid style; their meals were furnished in their own apartments. The lower officials and attendants were also handsomely lodged; the meals of the servants were provided in a room on the basement floor, and arrangements were also made for them to cook their own provisions, should they prefer doing so. Of course, all places of interest were visited during the stay of the Embassy in New York, but neither time nor space will permit a detailed account of the various sources of amusement provided by the city authorities for the distinguished guests; the princely hospitalities were closed by a magnificent ball and a few days afterward, the Japanese took a final leave of the country where they had met with so cordial a welcome; and, on the 30th of June, embarked on board the steam-frigate Niagara, to return *via* Cape of Good Hope, to their native land, bearing with them the kindest wishes of the Government and people of the United States

Their return to Japan with the impressions produced on their minds by the uniform kindness and courtesy extended to them throughout their journey, will, doubtless, inaugurate a new era in the foreign policy of their Government; and it may reasonably be expected that the social and commercial intercourse existing between the two countries will hereafter be of the most friendly and advantageous character.

The Powhatan sailed from Panama for Valparaiso on the 16th of May, in obedience to an order from the Navy Department, to proceed from that point around Cape Horn to Philadelphia. From Valparaiso she steamed to St. Catharine's, Brazil, in the remarkably short space of seventeen and a half days, and touching afterward for a few days at Rio de Janeiro for provisions, continued her voyage thence to Philadelphia, where she arrived on the 14th of August. She had been in commission two years and eight months, during which she steamed 57,637 miles, was actually at sea 312 days, showed the flag of the United States in twenty-five different ports, many of which were visited several times, and accomplished the voyage around the world. No serious accident ever occurred to the machinery, nor to any of the crew, with the exception of the loss of an arm and an eye by one of the Quarter-Gunners, occasioned by a premature explosion while firing a salute. The arm was so much injured as to necessitate amputation at the shoulder ; and the operation was performed in so skilful a manner by Dr. Philip S. Wales, of the Mississippi, that the man could not realize for some days that his arm was gone. Only eleven deaths occurred during the cruise, out of more than three hundred persons forming the complement of the ship.

The crew were discharged four or five days after her arrival at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, and within three weeks from that date she was again under way for the Gulf of Mexico, under the command of Captain Mercer, with another complement of officers and men—a very decided evidence of the efficient condition in which she had been kept during her long and active cruise in the waters of China and Japan.

**PART III**  
**NEWS ITEMS GLEANED FROM AMERICAN PAPERS**  
**ISSUED 60 YEARS AGO AND COLLECTED**  
**IN JAPAN**

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**I. LEADING ARTICLES**  
**OUR JAPANESE GUESTS.**

For the first time in history the most exclusive and mysterious of nations visits the freest and most accessible. Never before did such extremes meet. Punctilio and Dontcareism are "taking a drink" together, and the event is most significant. It is pushing Galileo's axiom of "the world moves" almost to the *reductio ad absurdum*. It is rendered more remarkable by the striking contrast presented at this very time by France and England in their Chinese negotiations; not that we would confound so refined and enlightened a people as the Japanese with so refined and yet degraded a race as the birdsnest and puppy dog eaters. Nevertheless, to a certain extent it may be considered as a proof of how much more the peaceful and yet dignified diplomacy of our Republic is adapted to such remote and bigoted peoples as the worshippers of Buddha, Confucious or Sintoo, than the overbearing and violent system of the Western Powers. That our success with the Japanese surprised the English was evidenced by their availing themselves of our Consul, Mr. Townsend Harris, to introduce Lord Elgin to the Court of Yeddo, and our mutual willingness to facilitate each other's negotiations with other

powers is a sign also in strict accord with the first visible recognition of equality ever given by the Japanese to a foreign power. They have hitherto permitted, as a great condescension, the Dutch to approach them, but it has been under the most humiliating conditions, and the slavish subserviency of that money-making nation has doubtless fostered the persistent hostility of the Japanese to all intercourse with foreigners.

The importance of this Embassy from above thirty millions of wealthy, ingenious and industrious people cannot be overrated, and, we have resolved to illustrate it in a manner worthy our position of the Great Illustrated Paper of America. In order, therefore, that the public may the better understand these interesting strangers, we have given a brief but complete *résumé* of our negotiations, and endeavored to convey to our readers some idea of their domestic institutions. Our sketches are strictly accurate, and the accounts which accompany them are authentic in every particular, being confirmed by Commodore Perry's mission, published by Congress.

We shall continue these illustrations, and our next number will contain numerous and graphic representations, made by our own special artists on the spot, of the arrival, reception, proceedings—in a word, of every interesting incident in Washington connected with the most remarkable Embassy in the history of the world. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, May 26, 1860.)

#### **OUR JAPANESE VISITORS.**

We devote several of our illustrated pages to the Japanese, who—at the time we write—are in Washington, enjoying the

hospitalities of that thriving little town. A large sum of money was voted by Congress to defray the expenses of their reception; and, from all that we hear, the Messrs. Willard have been as successful as they usually are in entertaining them gracefully and hospitably. By-and-by they will be here, and we understand that the Messrs. Leland, of the Metropolitan Hotel, propose to eclipse their confrères of the Federal Capital by a series of entertainments of unparalleled display and magnificence.

One or two members of Congress have alluded to this "fuss" as a "piece of nonsense." They are the lineal descendants of the people who said that the "fuss" in Boston, eighty odd years ago, about the Tea-duty was "all nonsense," and of the people who shouted aloud that the resistance to the Stamp-act, which ushered in the Revolution, was mere gammon. The fact is, that this Japanese embassy is a matter of the highest national and commercial importance.

The Japanese are the British of Asia. Like our ancestors of the British Isles, they are of insular origin, and full of insular virtues and insular prejudices. They despise foreigners; but they know how to take care of themselves. Many of their customs seem absurd to us; but they are honest in their adoption, and thorough in their observance. Their country produces a number of commodities which would find a sale here, and they consume many articles which we produce. Satisfy them that commercial intercourse with us would be beneficial to them, and a valuable trade will be created. Thus far, their only commercial correspondents have been the Dutch, who have driven hard bargains with them, and impressed them unfavorably with regard to Christian nations. We can undo the mischief that has been done

if we produce a favorable impression on our visitors, and commence a trade under proper auspices.

Independently, however, of immediate commercial benefits, the establishment of friendly relations with the Japanese can not fail to be of marked advantage to our Pacific States. The State of Oregon and the future State of Washington will necessarily become intimately connected with their nearest neighbors over the water. Of those neighbors Japan is the one best worth cultivating. The Russians of Northern Asia are hardly more than semi-barbarous, and the Chinese are such a peculiar race, and so entirely foreign to us in every sense of the word, that neither can compare, in respect of neighborly value, to the Japanese. By-and-by there will necessarily grow up an interchange not only of commodities but of men between our Pacific States and the empire of Japan. Our people will go to Japan—our esteemed friend Lieutenant Habersham, late of the United States Navy, has already established a promising commercial house at Yokohama—and will endeavor to show the Japanese the best side of the American character. On the other hand, the Japanese—if good relations be established between the two countries—will send out some of their people to plant Japanese colonies in our territory. On this interchange the benefit will be obvious and mutual. Civilized as we boast of being, we can learn much of the Japanese—if nothing more, we can learn the duty of obeying the laws.

In every point of view, the visit of the Japanese is an important event, and we fervently trust that all classes of our people will combine to do them honor. In this city, unfortunately, they will be under charge of our aldermen, who, it is to be feared, will

give them a very poor idea of our people. But nothing prevents our leading citizens from paying them private attentions, and we should be glad to hear that our rich and influential men—such as William H. Aspinwall, Moses H. Grinnell, James Gordon Bennett, Charles Hecksber, Thomas Richardson, David D. Field, and others who have fine country places—were prepared to do the honors of the city in a way which should efface any unpleasant remembrance of the grossièrétés which may be expected from the O'Tooles, and O'Booles, and O'Gradys, and O'Bradys of the Common Council. (*Harper's Weekly*, May 26, 1860.)

#### **THE JAPANESE EMBASSY, AND WHAT WILL COME OF IT.**

The visit of the Japanese Embassy to our shores, will mark an era, not only in the history of America and Japan, but in the annals of civilization. We do not think, therefore, that our Government, or our people, have rated the fact at too high a value, or that they have welcomed it with too costly, or too enthusiastic celebrations. We can, indeed, at present form no adequate conception of the vast benefits which will result from our friendly and commercial intercourse with this new and strange people, so long shut out from communion with the great world and with the cultivated nations, who make the planet glorious. They themselves are certainly not the least cultivated nation on the earth, as their wonderful progress in the arts and sciences, in literature, agriculture and manufactures, so triumphantly attests; and what they may become—starting from this solid groundwork of culture—when they have acquainted themselves with the vast stores of Western knowledge, and shall have been inoculated with



the Christian Idea, is one of the most hopeful problems in the future history of the race.

Nor is it a little surprising how they have developed themselves to their present high standard, unaided by external civilizing agencies and influences. They alone, so far as we know, without help from the East or the West, have found out everything by, and of, themselves ; and their laws, institutions and social life and policy, are literal reflexes of their mind and character.

The population of Japan is estimated at more than 40,000,000 of souls ; and, although they bear the unmistakable physique of the Mongolian race, and are the counterparts of our North American Indians in appearance, and in striking features of character, they are possessed of great intellectual ability, as well as of great executive talents. Their country is rich in minerals ; in gold and silver, and in copper of the very best quality. They do not grow much grain of any sort ; but the rice of Japan bears the palm of superiority all through Asia. There is no deficiency of esculent roots or of fruits ; the latter, indeed, are an abundant growth, and present all the variety of the tropics. They grow, also, plenty of cotton and hemp ; and their manufactured silk is superior to that of China. Their other staple manufactures are porcelain, glass, wooden fabrics and paper ; this last being made from the bark of the mulberry tree, and is in much esteem.

The great deficiency of the country is timber ; and there is not much iron ; nor have the mechanic arts advanced to any great perfection in Japan.

Our readers will see, however, from this brief outline of their character and resources, what a wide and profitable field the

commercial treaty, so lately ratified at Washington, will open up to the enterprise of this country. The whole civilized world, indeed is indebted to us, through Mr. Harris, for removing the hitherto impassable barriers which shut it out from commerce with the Japanese. Great Britain and Russia have acquired, through the intervention of Mr. Harris, a power by treaty, similar to our own; and through this gentleman very important changes have been made in the Japanese currency regulations, in favor of American and other traders. Formerly they would only receive foreign coin at the rate of 33 cents on the dollar—but thanks to Mr. Harris, the value of foreign coin is now raised to 94 cents on the dollar, and we have no doubt, in spite of the old Dutch diplomacy and maneuvering,—the Dutch having hitherto enjoyed an exclusive monopoly of the Japanese markets—that the commerce of Japan will eventually be as free as ours, or as that of any European country.

We cannot fail to be proud of our prospects, therefore, with this singular, and most interesting people—and it is no slight national honor that the first accredited political embassy which has left their shores, has been sent to the capital of this great Republic. (*New York Illustrated News*, May 26, 1860.)

#### **EDITORIAL GLANCES AT MEN AND THINGS.**

Although we have not the highest opinion of the Lindley Murrayism of the *Daily News*, we yet concede to it a love of veracity far exceeding its grammar. It was, therefore, with a visible shudder, that we read in that excellent journal the following terrible evidence of the inroads the charms of our fair countrywomen had made on the *bonos mores* of our Japanese friends,

whom we begin to suspect are not so innocent as they seem. The *Daily News* says :

“ The Japanese are overcoming their repugnance to female society, enforced on them by the Tycoon. At General Cass’s reception, a few nights since, they examined the jewels on the arms of several belles, and shortly after a dashing blonde exclaimed, ‘ One of them kissed my hand ! He gave it such a squeeze first ! Oh, he did it splendidly ! ’ ”

We are afraid when these poor innocents go back they will be little better than they should be. (*Frank Leslie’s Illustrated Newspaper*, June 9, 1860)

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## II NEWSITEMS.

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### DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

On Friday, May 11, the Senate passed several private bills and the Deficiency Appropriation Bill. An executive session was then held, and the Senate adjourned until Monday. In the House, a bill was reported providing for carrying out the stipulations of the treaty with Paraguay. The Chairman of the Committee on Territories reported bills for organizing Territorial governments for Idaho, Nevada, Chippewa, Arizona, and Dacotah, and they were all laid on the table. The Commandant of the Washington Navy-yard sent an invitation to the House to witness the reception of the Japanese Embassy on Monday ; but the House refused to adjourn for the purpose. (*Harper's Weekly*, May 19, 1860.)

### ARRIVAL OF THE JAPANESE.

The United States steam frigate Roanoke, forty-four guns, Captain William H. Gardner, commanding, bearing the flag of Flag-Officer William J. M'Cluney, Commander-in-Chief of the Home and Gulf Squadron, having on board the Japanese Embassy, arrived and anchored inside of Sandy Hook on Thursday night. Dispatches were taken on board from the Secretary of the Navy, ordering the flag-officer to proceed to Hampton Roads, and not enter this port. The Roanoke left next day with the Japanese, according to instructions. (*Harper's Weekly*, May 19, 1860.)

### THE PRINCE OF WALES.

By the time we have been civil to the Japanese Ambassadors, and have shown them the great public institutions of the Bellevue rats and Washington Market, his Highness of Wales will be at our doors. It will be a pleasure to him, doubtless, to fraternize with the gentlemen at the City Hall. (*Harper's Weekly*, May 19, 1860.)

### OUR JAPANESE VISITORS.

We publish on this page three engravings of Japanese subjects, which will be viewed with interest now that every body is talking about our Japanese visitors. The picture representing Japanese noblemen is from a photograph, and will convey a faithful idea of the way they dress and their general appearance. The picture of the principal street in Jeddo is from a Japanese drawing. Our visitors have several artists with them, who will doubtless sketch our streets and publish the pictures when they return. It may be hoped that the pictures will be in a higher style of art than the view of Jeddo. The picture of the tea-garden introduces the beholder to one of the most interesting institutions of Japan—Japanese cafes, in fact, where people go to drink tea and pass an hour in a cool, pleasant atmosphere, attended by graceful maidens.

Mr. Oliphant was charmed by the waitresses at these establishments, who, he says, are as fair as European girls, and are graceful and respectful in manner. It is a pity our visitors had not brought a few of their fair countrywomen with them.

We shall next week present the reader with more sketches of our distinguished visitors. (*Harper's Weekly*, May 19, 1860.)

## OUR JAPANESE VISITORS.

When but a very few years ago our Government, by a series of judicious measures, most ably carried out by Commodore Perry and others, induced Japan to open her gates to the world, it was generally conceded that we had peaceably and firmly accomplished one of those deeds by which a nation shows itself truly great in history. - Every maritime power in Europe had for two centuries endeavored to accomplish this, but in vain. A few scornful concessions of extremely limited trade to the Dutch, accompanied by such humiliating and insulting conditions as have made the word Japan a degradation to Holland, were about all that the Western world had from this ultimate point of the East. Even now it is only with America that Japan seems inclined to hold courteous and equal intercourse. The Russian and Englishman are still repelled by the people of the *dairi* with suspicion and distrust.

These considerations render the approach of the first Japanese legation to this country—the first which ever went from its shores to any nation except China—a matter of peculiar interest. It is the proof of a great commercial conquest peaceably effected in the noblest manner. The greatest praise is due to Townsend Harris, our Consul-General for Japan, for the perseverance and energy which he manifested in obtaining the sending this embassy. Great opposition was made, but fortunately there is a progressive party even in the last strong hold of conservatism, a party which believes in developing all the industrial resources of the country, and in encouraging peaceful foreign relations, and this party triumphed. The deed is now almost done, and there are few of

which any country ever yet had cause to be so justly proud. During the excitement of receiving these strangers let all who reflect on the real importance of their mission do honor to the ability, fearlessness and tact of our able consular representative, Townsend Harris.

Since penning the above, a rumor of the death of Mr. Harris has reached us. It is needless to say that especially at the present time such an event might be regarded as a national calamity. We can only trust that the report is unfounded.

Probably no foreigner was ever treated with more distinction by the Japanese than Mr. Harris, and his influence was entirely a moral one. Unsupported by an armed force or an imposing diplomatic corps, he secured the treaty of commerce and the embassy of which we have spoken, by clear determination, tact and courtesy. He was always received with honor by the Tycoon, and while sick at Yeddo was attended by the Tycoon's own doctor and supplied with delicacies made by the Queen herself. Mr. Harris was instrumental in aiding the English and French to obtain treaties with Japan, based upon that of the United States, and the courteous and generous assistance extended by him to Lord Elgin while in Japan was handsomely acknowledged by the English Government. It will thus be seen that Mr. Harris deserves a distinguished place among those of our public men who have so performed their duties as to reflect the utmost honor on their country. A slight act of personal folly or of forgetfulness—and how few there are who are never guilty of such deeds—might have destroyed our prestige at the Court of Japan, and delayed for years our progress in establishing relations with that country. It was not by mere good fortune,

but by the strictest exercise of good sense and great ability that our Consul obtained the influence referred to.

Before giving a synopsis of the voyage of these most remarkable visitors, we think it will interest our readers to have an account of the reception of the presentation by Commodore Perry, of the gifts sent by our Government to the Emperor of Japan.

**PRESENTING THE GIFTS FROM THE AMERICAN  
PRESIDENT TO THE JAPANESE  
AUTHORITIES.**

The day fixed upon for the delivery of the presents sent by the American Government was Monday, the 13th March, 1853, and although the weather was unsettled and the waters of the bay rough, they reached the shore without any accident. Among the most important were the following articles. A railroad, locomotive and car; a telegraph apparatus, wire, &c.; fifteen Hale's rifles; three Maynard's muskets, twelve cavalry sabres, six artillery swords, one carbine, twenty army pistols, two carbines, box of books, dressing-case, perfumery, barrel of whiskey, wine cordials, champagne, maraschino, tea, life-boats, "Audubon's Birds of America," Irish potatoes, stores, measures, weights and standards, charts and a large quantity of agricultural implements.

These filled several large boats, and left the ship escorted by a number of officers, a company of marines and a band of music, all under the superintendence of Captain Abbott, who was delegated to deliver the presents with proper ceremonies to the Japanese High Commissioners. A building adjoining the Treaty-house had been constructed for the purpose, and on landing Captain Abbott was met by Zezaimanz, the Governor of Uraga,



and several subordinates, and conducted to the Treaty-house. Soon after entering Prince Hayashi came in and led Captain Abbott to a smaller room. Here was delivered Commodore Perry's letter to the Japanese authorities. The result of this interview was the appointment of the 16th (Thursday) for an interview between the Commodore and the officials. This meeting was to take place on shore.

The presents having been thus formally delivered, the American officers and mechanics assisted the Japanese in unpacking and arranging them. A piece of level ground was selected for laying down the circular track of the little locomotive, and posts were brought and erected for the extension of the telegraph wires, the Japanese taking a very ready part and watching the progress of the work with a childlike delight. The telegraphic apparatus was soon in order, the wires extending nearly a mile. When all was in order messages both in Japanese and English were transmitted; and the astonishment to the Japanese was unbounded. Dignitaries of great gravity would come with all the eagerness of boys, and send some short message, and watched like eager children the process. The great wonder, however, was the railroad. Everything worked admirably. The car, however, being too small for a grown-up man, some of the high officials mounted the roof, and it was a most amusing spectacle to see a portly form flying through the air on the top of the carriage at the rate of twenty miles an hour. They, however, hung on with great tenacity, and no accidents occurred.

#### **THE PERSONS OF THE EMBASSY.**

The Embassy consists of two Ambassadors Plenipotentiary, who are nobles or princes of the highest rank. With these are

two others of nearly equal rank, a Censor and a Vice Governor. The duties of these latter officers is to report all that passes under their observation. The number comprising the Embassy consists of seventy-two persons—two Ambassadors, one Censor, one Vice Governor, sixteen under officers and secretaries, and fifty-two servants or soldiers, viz.:

1. Ambassador—Sinme-Bujen-no Kami.
2. Ambassador—Muragake Awage-no-Kami.
3. Chief Censor—Ogure-Bungo-no-Kami.
4. Vice Governor—Morita Okataro.

Officers of the First Rank belonging to the Ambassadors—Naruse Gensiro, Skahara Jhugoro.

Officers of the First Rank belonging to the Censor—Hetaka Keisaburo, Osakabe Tetsaro.

Under officers belonging to the Ambassadors—Sannojo, Yosida Sagosaimon.

Under officers of the Vice Governor—Masudu Sunjuro, Tuge Hosingoro.

Under officers of the Censor—Kuri-sima Hico-hatsiro, Sewo-sawa-Scogero.

Officer and Chief Interpreter—Namura Gohatsiro.

Interpreters—Tateish Tokujuro, Tateish Onagero.

Doctors—Meodake, Morayama, Cowasaki.

These Japanese are extremely desirous of acquiring information, and not only take notes copiously, but have with them an artist to sketch. Some drawback to their curiosity exists in the fact that but few of them speak English. It is creditable to them that even a few can do this. The chief among them is of the highest rank in the empire among the two hundred nobles which

it boasts. The rank of the principal Ambassadors is as follows :

1. Ambassador — Sinme-Bujen-no-kami (Sinme, Lord or Prince of the province of Bujen.) Sinme is the hereditary name of this prince, who ranks a little higher, or is more powerful in Japan, than the following :

2. Ambassador — Muragake Awage-no-kami (Muragake, Lord or Prince of the province of Awage.)

3. Censor—Ogure, Lord or Prince of the province of Bungo.

These three are hereditary princes or rulers of provinces. The proper title of each in England would be his Royal Highness, and in the United States his Excellency, being the highest titles under the sovereign or ruler. The Chief Censor is really Secretary, and constantly forwards home reports of all observed. The fourth, Morita Okataro, is Treasurer and also Counsellor. As has been said, "He is the Lord Palmerston of the Embassy, and nothing can be done without his approval. He appears to be clothed by the Emperor with very high powers." All these four officers are from the nobility—the advisers and counsellors of the Emperor.

### **THEIR VOYAGE ACROSS THE PACIFIC.**

During their voyage across the Pacific, these dignitaries displayed on all occasions, the same politeness and the same patience under personal inconveniences and trials which would be shown by the most courteous and refined men of the Western world. No difficulty whatever occurred, and they invariably expressed themselves gratified with their accommodations and with the officers of the vessel. It should, however, be remarked, that

every arrangement had been made for these passengers, and that the American officers fully understood the cultivated character of their guests.

### **ARRIVAL AT SAN FRANCISCO.**

After leaving Honolulu on the 18th of March the Powhatan had a fine run to San Francisco, where it arrived on the 27th. The Japanese Ambassadors were here received with appropriate honors. On the Monday they landed and visited the International Hotel. From thence they proceeded to the Washington Baths, where they indulged in a variety of warm, cold, shower, &c. On the Tuesday they were visited by the French, English and other foreign Consuls, who took to them numerous presents of sweet-meats, &c. On their visit to the Vulcan Works the next morning Mr. Donoho regaled the Embassy with champagne, which they seemed to relish highly.

The grand event, however, of their stay in San Francisco was their public reception at the City Hall, where the preparations were on the most extensive scale. The closing ceremony was a banquet at Job's Saloon on Washington street, where every delicacy was provided.

Among the numerous toasts were the Emperor of Japan and the President of the United States—whereupon the Japanese Admiral arose and begged them to drink it over again, but putting the President first.

While in San Francisco the Japanese officials received every attention from the citizens and public authorities. One of the peculiarities first manifested by the foreign dignitaries was a disinclination to regard ladies as equals, in consequence of which

they were forbidden to set foot on their vessel. This is said to have been owing less to adherence to their own prejudices than to a misapprehension of the social position of women in America.

### THEIR RECEPTION AT PANAMA.

On the 24th of April the United States steamer Powhatan, bearing the Japanese Commissioners, and commanded by Captain George F. Pearson, arrived at Panama. It is needless to say that she had been most anxiously expected, and was received with all the honors. "She came up the harbor," says the Panama correspondent of the *Herald*, "in gallant style, the Japanese flag at the fore, and the Stars and Stripes at the spanker, saluting the flag of officer Montgomery, of the United States steam frigate Lancaster, which was answered by a minister's salute of seventeen guns." All the shipping in the harbor was in gala rig and "peacocked" with the flags and signals of all nations.

Soon after the Powhatan came to anchor, Captain A. S. Taylor (who once visited Japan in the Powhatan and passed a year travelling in the country), went on board the vessel and was received with delight by his old friends. He had been left at San Francisco, and was, in fact, their special guardian during the voyage. During the day their baggage was taken from the Powhatan and sent on to Aspinwall. It filled four cars and weighed eighty tons. One object of peculiar interest was, however, retained by them. It was the "treaty box," which they never suffer to be out of sight, and which one of their number is specially deputed to watch. It is about three feet long, two feet in depth and eighteen inches wide, and is covered with red

morocco leather, handsomely stitched about the edges. The box is inclosed in a light frame, made of slats about two inches wide and half an inch thick, resembling very much the frame about Herring's safes. It is carried by two poles, about ten feet long, borne on the shoulders of four men. There are, in fact, three boxes which form the one covered by leather. One box contains the letter from the Emperor, or Tycoon, to the President ; one, the Japanese treaty, in their own language ; the other, a copy of the treaty in English, which they bring to have signed by the President—the original having been burnt up in the great fire at Yeddo two years ago. One of the principal objects of the Embassy is to obtain the signature in question.

After the salutations on landing at Panama were over an address was delivered by A. B. Corwine, Esq., United States Consul, after which there was a general introducing to American and Panama officers and officials.

### **THEY CROSS THE ISTHMUS.**

The seventy members of the Japanese legation then entered the five cars, which were placed at their disposal, accompanied by the Governor of Panama and others, including a number of ladies. The train started at eight o'clock, and was one hour *en route* to San Pablo, the half-way station, twenty-four miles, when a collation, with abundance of good wine, was prepared for the company by Mr. Center, in behalf of the railroad company. Here they remained one hour, and in another hour reached Aspinwall, where the Ambassadors and suite were immediately embarked on the frigate Roanoke, under a salute of seventeen guns.

Before reaching Aspinwall, when the train stopped at the

half-way house, a number of the Japanese descending began to sketch with marvellous rapidity and correctness fruits, birds, animals or any striking objects which they observed.

### **THEIR ARRIVAL AT ASPINWALL.**

On reaching Aspinwall, which they did at five minutes to eight, after the quick trip of one hour and fifty minutes, they were transferred to the United States war frigate Roanoke, which had been kept, to her great detriment, nearly one year at Aspinwall for the reception of this legation. The Roanoke and Sabine were in waiting at the mail-wharf, and the whole party were speedily and safely embarked, and proceeded to the flagship. The barge of Flag Officer McCluney preceded the other boats, conveying the Ambassadors, the Adviser, the Officer of the Treasury, the Chief Interpreter, Captain William H. Gardner, commanding the Roanoke (who went over to Panama to await the arrival of the Ambassadors, and escort them to Aspinwall), Captain A. S. Taylor, commanding the Marine Guard of the United States steam frigate Powhatan, and in charge of the Embassy. As the Ambassadors were coming over the gang-way of the magnificent Roanoke there was a roll of drums, the "present arms" of the Marine Guard, and the presence of the officers of the Sabine and Relief made quite an imposing ceremony.

The Flag Officer, McCluney, stood at the gangway and cordially welcomed the Embassy in the name of our Government and people, having been first personally introduced by the Chief Interpreter, Namura. An ambassadorial salute of seventeen guns was then fired from the flagship, with the imperial ensign of Japan flying from the foremast head, and the Ambassadors, after

acknowledging this courtesy to their Emperor and their cordial reception, were, with the Adviser, Officer of the Treasury and the Chief Interpreter, then introduced to the officers assembled upon the quarterdeck, and afterwards invited into the cabin.

We are indebted to the special Panama correspondent of the *New York Times* for the following items relative to their minor arrangements on board the Roanoke :

The Ambassadors, Adviser, Officer of the Treasury, High Officers, Chief interpreter and guests having partaken of refreshments in the cabin, and the other officers and invited guests of lunch and refreshments in the ward-room, commenced upon the selection and arrangement of their quarters, six large and airy departments having been erected upon either side of the gundeck, which, with the Captain's office and the Flag Secretary's state-room, accommodated the Ambassadors and all the officers. The mode of selection was thus : The several rooms were examined, and when a selection was made a corresponding ticket posted upon the door of the room, and so on, until all were accommodated, the good-natured and jolly " Governor " superintending this business. The servants were quartered upon the gundeck, between the guns, a canvas screen being placed before their quarters. A large Japanese copper range, with their cooking utensils, was brought over from the Powhatan and placed near the galley of the Roanoke, on the gundeck, where the Japanese cooks were soon at their work, their provisions having been brought with them. They use charcoal in this range, and all the pots and kettles are kept as clean and bright as the most fastidious housekeeper could desire.

Notices were posted in different parts of the ship, indicating



what officers were permitted to use certain ladders, & c. The utmost regularity prevailed in all the different departments and movements of the whole party—everything being thoroughly organized.

The two Ambassadors, Adviser and Officer of the Treasury messed with the Flag Officer and the Captain. The other officers, eighteen in number, messed with the ward-room officers. The starboard steerage was given up to their officers for a chow-chow-room, where they could take their tea and own peculiar dishes, served by their own cooks, at all hours during the day.

### **INCIDENTS ON THE VOYAGE.**

During the voyage the principal men of the embassy remained most of the time in their state-rooms. While stopping at Porto Bello for water, they allowed all their attendants to land, when the drawing and sketching at once began again. While there, the officers of the Roanoke invited eighteen of their guests to a ward-room lunch, on which occasion healths were drank, and the meal assumed a convivial and most agreeable form. Everything was arranged for their accommodation on board the Roanoke, so that they might feel comfortable and at home. Everything in the way of eating, drinking and smoking was furnished them. "All had enough of everything, from the Ambassadors down to the cooks."

During the voyage they all assembled to witness the drill of the Roanoke Rangers. This is a company of twenty-one boys, from twelve to eighteen years of age, who act as a sort of errand boys, though they are also thorough sailors on the ship. These boys are thoroughly trained in all kinds of firearm exercise which

is taught in military academies. They exercise with Perry's carbine, and perform with skill many manoeuvres. The Japanese watched these exercises with much interest.

### **CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.**

During the voyage the Roanoke encountered light head winds, so as to be obliged to steam it the whole distance from Aspinwall.

The Government at Washington had, however, changed its mind with regard to the destination of the Japanese. It had recently come to official knowledge that the time of the Embassy was limited to little more than two months in this country, and it was considered advisable that their first ceremonious reception should be by the President. The Navy Department consequently issued orders to have the Roanoke intercepted before reaching New York, and ordered to Hampton Roads, where a steamer was specially chartered to convey them to Washington. In order to effect this, copies of official dispatches from the Secretary of the Navy were put on board each of the Sandy Hook pilot-boats, with directions to deliver them so soon as the Roanoke should come in sight. A vessel from the Navy Yard was also detailed to wait at Sandy Hook for the same purpose.

### **ARRIVAL OFF SANDY HOOK.**

May 9, at three P.M., the Roanoke was first seen by the pilot-boat Jane (No. 1) steaming in from the south-east, with all her canvas spread. Shortly afterwards, Milvamer, one of her pilots was put on board, she then being some fifty miles off shore. At half past five P.M. she made her appearance south-east of the Highlands, and, on making the land, she immediately shortened\*

sail. She came in very rapidly under the pressure of steam and canvas, the pilot-boat George Steers, with two reporters on board, being already on her way out to meet her. At half-past six o'clock she passed Sandy Hook, and at seven o'clock anchored near the south-west Spit. Here Captain Elias Smith, a reporter of the *New York Times*, went on board from the pilot-boat George Steers, and delivered to the Flag Officer, McCluney, a copy of the dispatches from the Navy Department, which directed that the ship should not enter the port of New York, but proceed at once to Hampton Roads. It is needless to say that this order produced a feeling of profound disgust and disappointment among all the officers of the ship—a feeling which was generally shared by the crew. The Japanese, it is said, approved of the arrangement of allowing them first to see the President and the officers of the Government.

#### **ARRIVAL OF THE EMBASSY IN HAMPTON ROADS.**

The Roanoke arrived in Hampton Roads on the 12th, when it was immediately boarded by Captain Dupont, of the Navy; Captain Taylor, of the marines; Mr. Ledjard, son-in-law to Secretary Cass; Mr. Portman, the interpreter; Commodore Lee; Lieutenant Porter, Secretary of the Commission; Mr. Macdonald and some invited guests. The reporters followed in another boat. In the cabin of the Roanoke, Captain Dupont was formally introduced to the Japanese Ambassador, and showed his commission from the President to take charge of the distinguished strangers. The interpreter responded to the introduction in a very friendly manner. The Treaty was then taken from its box and shown to the authorities. The interpreter conversed very freely with those present, and spoke remarkably good English.

### **THEIR ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.**

On the morning of the 13th, the Philadelphia received the Ambassadors on board and steamed up the Potomac. As it passed Mount Vernon the vessel slackened her speed, in order to give the Japanese artists an opportunity of sketching the mansion and other interesting localities. At an early hour the Navy Yard was thronged with a dense crowd, and the excitement was supreme. At half-past eleven a gun from the Navy Yard announced that the steamer was at hand, when Mayor Berret went on board, and was introduced to the illustrious strangers. They were evidently much gratified with all they saw. The Club Boats on the river, with the American and Japanese flags, added to the brilliant effects of the scene.

The treaty box was first brought from the boat, and then followed the Japanese, under the escort of several naval officers. They passed, as they landed, between the American and Japanese flags.

Having approached to where Captain Buchanan was standing, he, in the presence of his brother naval officers, welcomed them in the name of the President of the United States and the country, reciprocating the kind feelings expressed by the Japanese Government when the treaty was made by the gallant Perry. As an humble participator on this very interesting occasion, he felt proud of being the medium of their reception on the part of his country-men.

The dignitaries, thus addressed through the interpreter, bowed their acknowledgments.

While these ceremonies were progressing a salute was fired from the Battery.

The military, presenting a beautiful appearance, were arranged on the side of the plankway (newly whitewashed) on which the visitors walked to the gate, where the cortege formed.

First, the President's Mounted Guard ;

Then the Japanese in hacks ;

Next, the treaty, in a large red morocco box, in a square cage, was carried on the top of the omnibus.

The marines and District militia followed, and there was music from several bands.

The sidewalks on Pennsylvania avenue were crowded and the windows filled.

The intense excitement continued throughout the distance from the Navy Yard to the quarters of the Japanese, which they reached at about a quarter of two o'clock. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, May 26th, 1860.*)

## **DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.**

### **CONGRESS.**

On Monday, May 14, both Houses adjourned, on meeting, in order to witness the reception of the Japanese.

On Friday, May 18, the Senate ordered to be printed a bill carrying into effect treaties with Japan, Siam, China, and Persia. (*Harper's Weekly May 26, 1860.*)

### **THE JAPANESE AT WASHINGTON.**

We devote most of our illustrated pages this week to illustrations of the Japanese embassy at Washington. The reader will find pictures of the Landing at the Washington Navy Yard, of the

Reception by President Buchanan, of the Presentation of Americans to the Japanese at Willard's, of the Japanese at dinner, and of the singular operation of head-dressing which the Embassadors and their suite undergo at regular intervals. We now proceed to give—from the daily papers—some description of these various incidents :

### **THE LANDING AT WASHINGTON.**

The *Herald* correspondent writes :

“ Up to twenty-five minutes past eleven ; at which time a signal-gun reverberated through the yard, and the bow of the *Philadelphia* was to be seen turning Buzzard's Point, immediately below the arsenal, the crowd that had gathered within the yard did not include a thousand people, but every minute added numbers to the throng. As the steamer approached, the American and Japanese flags fluttering gayly from their staffs gave a fitting character to her appearance, and as she came up to the wharf, to which she had been signaled by the small sloop referred to, that had been drawn into the steam for the purpose, she presented a beautiful and highly effective appearance. As she turned in near the old ship-house the Marine Band, whose gay uniforms had been discerned on the bow, struck up the ‘Star Spangled Banner,’ which was immediately followed by the inspiring strains of ‘Hail Columbia.’ At twenty minutes to twelve she was made fast to the wharf. Several of the Japanese were at this time standing on the guards, where they attracted great attention. One in particular, who stationed himself on the upper deck guards, with a number of sheets of colored paper, and without loss of time commenced sketching the whole scene before him, succeeded in

making himself 'the observed of all observers.' Those who satisfied their curiosity by glancing over his shoulder reported that his drawings were very life-like, and that he took particular notice of the Japanese flag, and touched it off with photographic nicety. The half shaven heads of several other of his countrymen were visible at the different windows of the steamer, and by their words and laughter were evidently passing some, to us, no doubt, very original opinions on what they saw.

"Although the boat was at the wharf at twenty minutes to twelve, no debarkation took place till a quarter past twelve, by which time several detachments of the marines and the volunteer companies of the city were arranged in a long line to the east of the walk, and the Mayor and City Councils of Washington had arrived. The latter then, accompanied by Captain Dupont and several other officers of the army and navy in command, proceeded on foot to the gangway of the steamer, where Captain Dupont introduced the Mayor to the two ambassadors and their two chief counsellors. The Mayor then, in a few appropriate remarks, gave the Embassy a cordial welcome to the national metropolis of a nation of thirty millions of freemen; to which Simme Buzenno-kami replied, through the chief interpreter, in the words, 'We thank you, Sir, for the high honor and compliment done us.'

"After this the salute of seventeen guns was fired from the Dahlgren battery, when the first ambassador, arm-in-arm with Captain Dupont headed the procession, and marched forward between the lines of citizens and soldiery toward the head of the yard and walk, where carriages were ordered to be in waiting to receive them. They had not proceeded many yards, however, when Commodore Buchanan stepped forward and uttered a few

words of welcome to the Embassy in the name of the President of the United States and the people. He said that he reciprocated the kind feelings expressed by the Japanese Government when the treaty was made by Commodore Perry, and he felt proud, on an occasion so interesting as the present one, of being the medium of a reception and welcome so hearty as the President and citizens of America now extended to them.

"After the chief interpreter had communicated these remarks to them, the ambassadors bowed their acknowledgments, and the interpreter said, 'Thank you, Sir.'

"After this the procession moved on without interruption to the end of the walk, the chief ambassador walking with his right arm linked in that of Captain Dupont and his left in that of some other naval officer. The second ambassador was similarly escorted by Lieutenant Porter and another. The rest followed in single file, and beside them walked other naval officers.

"I must not forget to mention that the *Nourimon*, a black lackered frame, square in shape, and in size and roof very much resembling a dog-kennel, in which was fixed the treaty-box, hidden from the public eye by a loose cover of red oil-cloth, preceded the first ambassador in the line of procession, and was carried by two of the men belonging to the yard. When the end of the walk was reached it was placed on the ground, to await suitable transit to the hotel."

### **THE PERSONNEL OF THE EMBASSY.**

It is worth while to present for once, at least, whatever orthography may be finally adopted, the Japanese names as they are uttered by their owners :



1. Sim'mi Boojsen no-Kami.
2. Mooragáki Awajsi no-Kami.
3. O'goori Bungo no-Kami.
4. Moroóta Okatóro. (Morita Okataro)
5. Naroúsa Gensiro. (Naruse Zenshiro)
6. Tsokahára Jougoro. (Tsukahara Jugoro)
7. Hitáka Kesaboro. (Hitaka Keizaburo)
8. Osakábi Tetstáro. (Osakabe Tetsutaro)
9. Matsemóto Sanójou. (Matsumoto Sannojo)
10. Yósida Sagosaiémon. (Yoshida Sagozaemon)
11. Námoura Gohajsiro. (Namura Gohachiro)
12. Masuj'su Sintshéro. (Masudzu Shunjiro)
13. Sooj'se Yosegóro. (Tsuji Yoshigoro)
14. Kúri Simahicohaj'siro. (Kurishima Hikohachiro)
15. Susasáwa Scójero. (Shiozawa Hikojiro)
16. Measáki. (Miyazaki Ryugen)
17. Moryáma. (Murayama Hakugen)
18. Tataiesi Tokujsóro. (Tateishi Tokujuro)
19. Tataiesi Owaj'sero. (Tateishi Onojiro)
20. Kowasáki. (Kawasaki Domin)

The order of the above is strictly according to the order of rank. Nos. 1 and 2 are the first and second Embassadors ; No. 3 is the Censor or Adviser ; No. 4 is the Officer of the Treasury ; No. 5 bears the title of Governor, and is slightly subordinate to the preceding ; No. 6 is the next in rank. These are all dignitaries of high position. Nos. 7, 8, 14 and 15 are attendants, or aids, to the Adviser, No. 3 ; Nos. 9 and 10 are officers belonging to the first and second Embassadors ; No. 11 is the Imperial Interpreter ; Nos. 12 and 13 are aids to the Treasury officer, No. 4 ;

Nos. 16, 17 and 20 are Doctors; Nos. 18 and 19 are interpreters. It will be seen they have the same first name. The family name in Japan always precedes, and No. 19, little "Tommy," is the adopted son of No. 18.

The princes, Simmi, of Boojsen, Mooragaki, of Awajsi, and Ogoori, of Bungo, are of the highest rank that could have been deputed upon this mission. They are the equals in station of the princes who negotiated the first treaty with Commodore Perry, and the subsequent treaties with Mr. Harris. They are not hereditary princes, the Lycoom, (Tycoon) or temporal superior, having no power to send the hereditary princes from his dominions. They belong, or have belonged, however, to the Lycoon's Foreign Council of six. Their titles have only an honorary significance, since they have no share in the government of the places whose names they bear. Simmi Boojsen no-Kami is not the governing prince of that province in Kiusiu—possibly has never been in it. And so with the rest. Possibly they hold the titles by reason of family connections. The instructions which they bring from their imperial master, a Dutch copy of which has been translated by Mr. Portman, authorize them to ratify the treaty of Mr. Harris, and to arrange all affairs so as to insure perpetual peace and friendship between the United States and Japan.

#### **PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF VISITORS.**

Few American ladies will be likely to fall desperately in love with the principal members of this Embassy in consequence of the striking beauty of their forms and faces. The first Ambassador is a man of small frame, with a stoop across the shoulders. He

is about five feet five in height, and thirty-five in years. He has a long face and a peculiar nose, which is his most noticeable feature. It is too thin to be called Jewish, and too even to be styled Roman. It is in the form of a regular curve, not unlike the beak of a parrot. But perhaps I am exaggerating. The second Ambassador looks twenty years older than the first, and is decidedly worse looking. He has lost many of his teeth, and those remaining are very much decayed. He has a sterner, but less intellectual look than the other, whose face is mild in the extreme.

Every man of the embassy wears by right two swords, and nearly half of these men are more or less pock marked. They are all thick-skinned and dark in complexion, the general color being that of a bamboo walking cane; but there are three of them whose faces are warmed by a rosy hue, which is very becoming. With all of them ease and dignity are seen in happy combination; nothing seems to surprise them, but every thing attracts their attention and curiosity.

The Japanese are naturally enough excited about their reception, and wish to prepare for it in quiet. Still they are not indifferent to the smiles of beautiful women, and they are received when gentlemen, no matter how commanding in appearance, are denied admittance.

### **THEIR COSTUME, ETC.**

The *Tribune* says: "The Princes are of pleasant and intelligent appearance. The First Ambassador is a person of middle age, with a countenance indicating dignity beyond all affectation, and the highest refinement. The others are of less

distinguished mien, but all thoroughly agreeable in expression. Their manner of dress is very similar. The hair is shaved from all parts of the head excepting the sides and back, from which it is gathered in long bands to the crown, and there fastened with a white string, leaving a lock three or four inches long, which is stiffened with oil, and brought forward to the forehead, where it rests. They wear silk or crape under-coats, of various hues, looser robes of the same material, and mostly blue, being thrown and folded over them. In their belts of crape they wear two swords, one short (the barrikarri sword, which no plebeian can make use of), the other longer. These weapons are of a finer steel than is elsewhere made, and are borne in neatly-wrought scabbards of thick skin, inlaid with ornaments of gold and jewels. Their trowsers are very wide and short, descending only to within five or six inches of the ground, and are made of silk, which is sometimes covered with beautifully embroidered figures of birds and flowers. These trowsers are held up by a flat braid which rests in the small of the back, and around which the crape belt passes. Upon their feet are white cloth coverings, half sock, half gaiter, closely fitting, and fastened by cords. Their sandals are of straw, and are composed of a small, flat matting for the foot, and two cords—one passing over the instep, the other between the large toe and its neighbor—which serve to keep it in its place. Another article which may almost be considered an inseparable part of the dress, is the pipe, which is carried in the back part of the belt, and which is brought into very frequent, though not long sustained, use. Three whiffs are the extent of Japanese indulgence in this luxury. The princes, and the most of the higher officers, wear watches purchased from the Dutch. For pockets they use

a part of their flowing sleeves and the front of their robes above the belt, the customary occupation of which by goodly-sized packages gives the wearers a protuberance of stomach quite unaccountable at first sight. The dresses of the officers of lower grade are similarly fashioned, but not so rich in texture or color. Their coats are all marked with the stamp of the particular prince whom they serve. Some of these attendants have adopted leather shoes and slippers, which they found at Honolulu and San Francisco, and are rather favorably disposed to the change. The Japanese have with them, also, certain articles of wearing apparel which they seldom use—hats of straw and lacker, and overcoats made of stout paper, thickly painted, which are quite durable, and which are sold in Japan for about seventeen cents a piece."

#### **THE JAPANESE QUARTERS AT WILLARD'S.**

The *Tribune* correspondent adds: "The Japanese are amply and elegantly accommodated at Willard's Hotel. The entire lower floor of one wing has been given up to their uses. A suit of rooms, mostly connected with one another, and stretched from Pennsylvania Avenue, along Fourteenth to F. Streets has been arranged with great care, in a manner supposed to be rightly suited to their tastes. Many of these apartments are newly furnished and covered for this occasion. The walls are thickly decorated with fine engravings, and upon every available place, bronze statuettes, of which the Japanese are fond, are liberally distributed. In all the principal rooms mirrors reach from floor to ceiling on every side — a matter of particular interest to the visitors, whose only mirrors at home are small plates of highly polished steel. The number of their apartment is about sixty, of

which nearly twenty are reception-rooms and parlors of various dimensions. For the servants, the chapel of the hotel, a spacious and convenient hall has been set apart. Upon the same floor are those indispensable aids to Japanese comfort, the bathing-rooms. The Japanese exceed all other people in their scrupulous and universal cleanliness. A flight of stairs leads down to their dining-room, where they will be at liberty to enjoy their meals with whatever seclusion they may desire. In the basement a small kitchen is at their disposal, where their peculiar arts of cookery may be practiced unmolested. A private entrance to their quarters from Fourteenth Street is secured to them, and will be under their own control.

“ Every necessity that could have been foreseen is supplied. Alterations that the guests may suggest will be effected, if possible ; but their ready adaptive habits would enable them to find satisfaction in much less thorough accommodation than has been provided for them. The luxurious beds which await them will not at first recommend themselves to their pleasant senses, their accustomed places of repose being nothing softer than rigorous pine at the best ; but it is possible that by degrees they may become inured to feathery pillows and balmy blankets, and that couches of downiest delicacy may not be altogether unwelcome to them.”

#### **VISIT TO THE JAPANESE.**

The *Herald* correspondent writes, on Thursday evening :

“ They received no visitors to-day, keeping closely to their apartments. Nevertheless they appeared pleased with the motley crowd assembled under their windows, and presented quite fre-

quently their smiling countenances. Yesterday evening they prevented the police from driving these curious American sight-seers away, and amused themselves by throwing their native coin among them to be scrambled for. Large numbers of ladies and gentlemen paid their respects to them, and begged a card written in Japanese characters, which are exhibited, in connection with the singular coin, as trophies and mementoes of this interesting occasion. Already the men about town have attached Japanese coin to their watch-chains, in token of their importance and influence with those in authority.

“There is one peculiarity in this reception, and that is, that the Japanese inquired the occupation of the visitors, their salary, whether married, and numerous other questions, all of which were written on their note-books, and gave satisfactory evidence that they are making observations for the benefit of their countrymen at home. With the ladies they were less particular. They smiled upon them most benignly, and were profuse in their admiration as they were minute in their examination of their jewelry.

“The piano was an object of great curiosity. The source of harmony was a mystery to them, but they seemed never to tire of it. Card writing became quite a bore; and one of them, after complying with the request of a \$1200 clerk to write his name in Japanese, on being applied to by another to fill up half a dozen cards in the same manner, pulled out a small pocket-book, and after a hasty inspection ejaculated ‘Tired!’ Of course the clerks were satisfied.”

General Cass received the Embassy on Wednesday evening, and made a short speech of welcome. The appearance of the Japanese during the delivery of General Cass’s speech was very awkward.

They sat in their chairs with their bodies bent over and their hands on their knees ; and when they stood up to acknowledge the greeting, as each sentence was translated to them they stooped their bodies very low.

### **THE RECEPTION AT THE WHITE HOUSE**

Took place on Thursday, 18th inst. The *Herald* correspondent says :

The famous East Room of the Presidential mansion began to fill at an early hour, the majority of those admitted being ladies. There were several artists about (representing *Harper's Weekly*. —Ed. H. W.) sketching the room, and reporters taking notes, which gave the impression that something very solemn and unusual was about to take place. Nor was this dispelled by the appearance of the well-preserved Marshal of the District of Columbia, Mr. Selden, who appeared in full dress, with white kids, and little fatigued by his twenty years of public services. Mr. Selden was accompanied by James Buchanan, Jun., the President's private secretary, to whom he was describing the order of proceeding. From their conversation I learned that the President was to take a position immediately in front of the large window on the west side, with his Cabinet arranged behind him, and that the officers of the navy and army were to form two lines to the door of entrance.

At eleven o'clock Senators and Members, with their wives, daughters, and children, began to arrive in rapid succession, which promised very little of an audience to Senator Davis, who was to continue his reply to the great speech of Senator Douglas. Now succeeded the hum of interesting conversation and the rustling of



female apparel. Love, politics, and even religion—for the tall form of the Chaplain of the House, Mr. Stockton, was prominent in the crowd—were promiscuously discussed. The ladies declared they would not be able to see the Japanese, and then followed the endeavors, vain indeed, of their escorts to get them in the front line. But above all could be heard the most curious remarks about these “idols of the hour,” their personal appearance, their singular dress, and their funny custom of dressing the hair.

The entrance of the splendidly uniformed officers of the army and navy was the signal for desperate flirtations on the part of the gay young ladies, who were smiling most bewitchingly. Some of the plain and unpretending legislators were very differently affected. The golden dress and prominent position of these faithful subjects seemed to disgust them, and one of them very unfeelingly remarked that they should not have appeared in apparel so handsome, at least until after the passage of the bill increasing their pay. General Scott towered above the crowd, and for a time at least was the “observed of all observes.”

#### **ENTRANCE OF THE SPEAKER AND THE PRESIDENT.**

But the bustle and confusion at the door increased, and many exclaimed, “Here come the Japanese!” It was a false alarm. It was only Mr. Speaker Pennington, with about fifty members of Congress and officers of the House. The House had taken a recess, suspended the public business until those having it in charge could learn whether or not mutual intercourse with their Oriental peers would not stimulate them to renewed exertions.

The East Room at this point gave evidence of its incapacity to contain the sovereigns of the nation, and the necessity for a new mansion of grander proportions and enlarged accommodations. The situation of the fortunate inmates was deplorable, they were crowded together without order of any kind. Each person occupied what position he pleased, and it was more than likely, if of small stature, his neighbor's hat continually closed his wide-stretched eyes. Even the ladies, the privileged class of our republic, suffered from the pressure.

But attention was directed from these petty annoyances by the entrance of the President of the United States, accompanied by the Cabinet, and the determined efforts of Mr. Commissioner Blake to move back the crowd, and form an open line of the army and navy officers, through which the Japanese could approach the Chief Magistrate of all the States of the Union. By dint of much pushing and a little coaxing, sufficient space was cleared, and the arrangement was perfected.

### **THE ENTRANCE OF THE JAPANESE.**

While the confusion was greatest the Marine Band was heard outside, which caused a rush for the windows, and announced the arrival of the cortége. All was expectancy and disappointment. The Japanese were in no hurry to enter, and completed their preparations with the greatest deliberation. In the mean time the limited furniture of the East Room was seized, and used to elevate the ladies. The elegant rosewood chairs and sofas, the pride of rural Americans, were wheeled from their positions against the wall, and converted into platforms for distinguished American ladies of fashion and beauty. One of the chairs

accommodated three ladies and a Senator in this manner. Even the marble slabs under the mirrors were not overlooked, and one pretty young lady rendered herself conspicuous by setting herself in a looking-glass with an elegant frame.

But I am forgetting the entrance of the Japanese, with all the customary forms of homage of their own country. Immediately there succeeded loud talking and a little storm of hisses. Silence ensued, but nothing could be heard, and those in the rear amused themselves by calling attention to the continued efforts of all the little men to look over the heads of the crowd by standing on tip-toe. Still there was very general good-humor on the part of those who couldn't see or hear ; but several of the disappointed declared that they had been sold, and it wouldn't pay to look at the Japanese. A portion of the President's address was audible at a distance, however, and when he spoke of the ratification of the treaty, and the Japanese betrayed by their expressive countenances how pleased they were, one of the disappointed few said that "rat" was the only thing that was intelligible to them.

#### **THE FORMAL ADDRESSES.\***

#### **THE COSTUME OF THE ENBASSADORS.**

The chief Prince was arrayed in a rich brocade purple silk sack, with ample overhanging sleeves, and flowing trowsers of the same color. The other two dignitaries were in green, of similar texture and fashion. They wore caps like ladies, inverted capes, fastened on the crown of the head by strings passing under the chin. They carried pikes, halberds, and

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\* These addresses have already been given.

emblems of their rank. The inferior officers wore small hats, consisting of a round band, with triangular crowns, also tied to the head by strings under the chin.

### **A DROLL INCIDENT.**

One amusing incident is worth detailing. A well-known lawyer, and a strict member of Dr. Gurley's church, and once Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Virginia, who is noted for the rotundity of his person no less than his hearty good-humor, accidentally came into contact with a perambulating Japanese, who regarded him for a few moments in unbounded astonishment. Recovering himself, he touched the corporation of Mr. F. F. V., not once, but twice, and ejaculated "solid!" (Harper's Weekly, May 26, 1860)

## **LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.**

### **SPLENDID ILLUSTRATIONS BY OUR ARTIST.**

#### **THE NEW YORK ILLUSTRATED NEWS AHEAD OF ALL COMPETITION.**

The Japanese visit the rooms of our Correspondent and Artist.

### **THE ARRIVAL OF THE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON— THE RECEPTION—THEIR QUARTERS AT WILLARD'S HOTEL—RECEPTION BY THE PRESIDENT.**

The Roanoke, with the Japanese Embassy on board, reached Hampton Roads about midnight on Saturday, and the sentinel steamer Anacosta having conveyed the intelligence to Norfolk, the Philadelphia proceeded early yesterday morning to receive the distinguished visitors, and convey them to Washington.

She had on board Capt. Dupont, of the Navy ; Capt. Taylor, of the Marines ; Mr. Ledyard, and Mr. Portman, the interpreter ; Commander Lee and Lieut. Porter were also present. Capt. Dupont was presented to the Embassadors on board the Roanoke, and exhibited to them his commission from the President to take charge of them while they remained in the United States. The other officers, with the interpreter and Mr. Ledyard, as the representative of the State Department, were then introduced to the Embassy by Capt. Dupont. They were formally welcomed to the country, and their interpreter responded in tolerably good English. A Japanese artist was on board the Roanoke sketching the scene.

“The Embassy arrived in Washigton on Monday, the 14th. Not only that, but they arrived, to a marvel, before the time appointed by several minutes, notwithstanding that a rumor got abroad that the Philadelphia had got fast upon the Kettle Bottoms. But however this unfounded report got into circulation, it was evident it had no effect upon those who were determined to witness the arrival and embarkation at the navy yard. Thitherward, up Capitol Hill, from the heart of the city below, poured a continuous stream of carriages and busses, horsemen and pedestrians, bound for the one point ; and never did a warmer or brighter sun greet the out-pouring of holiday citizens than that which shed its exhilarating rays upon the thousands who hurried along the main thoroughfares to the center of attraction. Fifes and drums were heard in all directions, calling to their rendezvous the various military companies of the city and Georgetown. But these sounds were left behind,

and along the plateau, high over which is seen the dome of the Capitol, kept on the streams of the people.

There was no obstructions at the navy yard; all were admitted without question, and as early as half-past ten o'clock, some hundreds of private carriages and a continuous stream of omnibusses had deposited their burthens at that point. There was very little display made by the garrison within the walls to mark the occasion. But there has been a great display otherwise, characteristic of the American people upon such occasions. The yard in every direction was covered with people, who, determined to be early, had poured into the yard a couple of hours before the time appointed for the arrival of the Philadelphia, exhibiting a faith in official announcements very rarely sustained, but in this case promptly verified. The center building, known as the "Offices," had every available standing spot along its upper and lower corridors filled with beautifully dressed ladies, while a stream of the fairer sex kept moving to the right and left, wherever a building offered a place of shelter from the sun and a view of the landing place.

But Young America, like their own favorite eagle, soaring above the earth, sought higher eyries from whence to scan the strangers, who for the first from their distant homes approached to the land of freedom. Their standpoints of view were piles of cannon balls and dismounted guns and howitzers, and higher still, away upon the roofs of the ship houses, where they appeared very juvenile indeed in the eyes of the gazers below.

The only preparations observable on the part of the authorities of the naval depot to receive the strangers, beyond the appearance of some hundred United States troops and

marines under arms, was a long strip of boarding extending some six hundred feet from near the copper rolling house to the wharf, and which was newly whitewashed for the occasion, and had a very whitewashy, if not an imposing effect.

A rumor had got abroad that the steamer had stranded upon the Kettle Bottoms, and that she could not therefore possibly reach the wharf before two o'clock, and as the sun was just a little fiercer than under the circumstances she had a right to be, there were many misgivings in the crowd as to the propriety of stopping so long. But exactly at twenty minutes before twelve the lookout gave notice of the approach of the steamer, and in a moment the signal gun announced that she had turned Greenleaf's Point. From all parts of the yard there was an instantaneous rush to the wharf, the troops were summoned to their arms, the police lined the center way along either side of the whitewashed planks, and the greatest excitement prevailed. Members of the press congregated in groups, and pencils accustomed to hieroglyphics, but totally inadequate to note words in Japanese, looked as sharp as if they were quite up to the thing, and ready to take down the stranger the moment he opened his mouth. All was on tiptoe of expectation; and anon came the strains of the band from the deck of the steamer, and a thousand tongues, cried, the "Star Spangled Banner." Beyond the hum of voices and the running up of the Japanese flag, no demonstration whatever was made as the steamer came alongside and made fast without a welcoming cheer.

A group of officers stood in front, among whom a consultation appeared to be held, which resulted in their selecting some citizens to go on board and receive the Embassy. There was

but little delay, and a little after twelve the first and most important effects of the Embassadors came ashore. Yankee cunning alone divined its purpose, and the treaty and the treaty box(?) was on every one's lips. The treaty box, or the "ark of the covenant," as some irreverently called it, was put in order some thing after the style of a sedan chair, and raised upon the shoulders of two policemen, who marched off with it amid the jests of the bystanders, and closely followed by the Japanese officer in whose especial charge it is.

Next came forth the principal of the Embassy, and after him followed the principal officers of the suite, who were introduced by Capt. Lee to the Commandant. Commodore Buchanan, through the interpreter, welcomed them to the seat of the American government, and assured them, on behalf of the President and the American people, a hearty welcome. A salvo of guns was fired as the Japanese Prince landed, and the moment the ceremony of introduction was over, a procession, formed by the naval and military officers in front, and the Japanese following, was formed, and the party began to move along the white-washed planks.

But from this moment all order was at an end. The crowd broke the lines and rushed in on all sides, surrounding the Embassy so completely, jostling police here and military there, that there was very little chance indeed of the ladies catching more than a glimpse of the shaven crowns of the Plenipotentiary and his suite.

At the end of the platform, carriages were in waiting, into which the Japanese entered, attended on each side by an officer. But here some delay was occasioned by the treaty box being



carried too far ahead, and it had to be regained before the procession could move. It was at last brought back, and finally placed on the top of an omnibus, the high priest in charge having it all to himself. After numerous halts, and re-forming of troops, and partial extrication of vehicles and horsemen and men, women and children, from all sorts of perilous positions, the procession got a fair start up through Garrison street and on up to the avenue.

Of all the new sights which surrounded them, the strangest to the Japanese must have been the crowds of people from the rear rushing in a mad, hot haste over vacant blocks to head the procession at different points, flying as if pursued by an avenging enemy. Then at every halt each carriage was surrounded by a mob, who thrust their heads into the carriages, and passed all sorts of comments among themselves upon the appearance of the strangers. One burly fellow swore that all they wanted was to have a little more crinoline and be right out decent looking nigger wenches.

In the dearth of objects of attraction, such as might be supposed to surprise the strangers in New York, there was at least, in the first glance which rested upon the swelling and many-pillared dome of the Capitol, towering majestically above one marble pile, almost hidden in the luxurious foliage which surrounds it, and again in the long wide stretch of the noble avenue upon which the whole multitude had room to move with ease, much to favorably impress them with the importance of the federal capital. In Fourteenth street, on which is situated the private entrance to Willard's Hotel, the troops were drawn up, and the Embassy entered under a salute of arms.

Notwithstanding the great heat and the rush of people, no accident occurred beyond such as befel two of the military, who were partially sun struck. Soon after the arrival at Willard's Hotel, a storm threw its threatening shadows over the city, and the immense concourse speedily dispersed.

Embassy all quartered at Willard's. They have sixty rooms, all fitted up for the especial purpose, in the most costly style. Two Embassadors, Censor, have parlors together, Vice-Governor separate. These four and sixteen officers of lower rank mess together, it being their wish. They wish to be democratic. Bowing and scraping of servants has been put a stop to since coming to Willard's. (*The New York Illustrated News*, May 26, 1860.)

#### **ANOTHER ACCOUNT FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.**

*WASHINGTON, MAY 14th, 1860.*

The excitement in Washington, consequent upon the arrival of the Japanese Embassy, far exceeds anything which the old Myth, known by the name of the "Oldest Inhabitant," has within the records of his remembrances. We have seen many notable sights in our time; many magnificent gatherings and processions of the great American people, on many various occasions - but the reception of the Embassy on their landing in this city, was the grandest spectacle which one great nation has ever, perhaps, presented to the Envoys and Embassadors of another. Certainly it was the grandest spectacle which we have ever beheld, and its parallel, if it is to be found anywhere, must be sought for in antique annals, when some Cæsar returned in

triumph to the Capitol, laden with trophies—*bellorum exuviae* as Juvenal has it, and was received with wild shouts and acclamations, and the mighty roar of Rome.

The good citizens here did not know how to hold themselves, or how to express adequately their enthusiasm. Young and old, men, youths, and maidens, were all caught up by the fiery stream of feeling, and hurried along into every kind of joyful extravagance. At 11 o'clock a single gun announced to the assembled multitude that the Philadelphia was in sight, and fast approaching the dock—and from this moment to the final quartering of the Embassy at Willard's, it would be impossible for words to paint the scene, or describe the excitement. The moment the boat was secured to the wharf the Embassadors and their suite disembarked, and were received by the following officers of the Navy Yard:—Commandant, Commodore Buchanan; Commander McBlair; Lieutenants Maury and Simms; Major Tenet, U. S. Marine Corps; Dr. Geo. Clymer, surgeon of the yard and garrison; Dr. Walsh, Medical Department; Dr. Vansant; R. P. Allison, purser; F. McNeshany, naval storekeeper; W. P. S. Sanger, civil engineer; George Wilmuth, boatswain; John Rainbow, carpenter.

Ordinance Department:—Capt. Dahlgran; Lieutenants Jervis, Wise, Russell, Gwynn, and Ramsey. Pyrotechnist:—John Clapham. Laboratory:—John Thompson and Richard Boarman. Gunner's Department:—Wm. Thompson.

Then a salute of guns burst through the air, the military were formed in procession, their bayonets glittering brightly in the sun; and the officers in handsome uniform, advanced with uncovered heads, contrasting strangely with the Japanese in

their splendid and barbaric costumes. At this moment there was not less than ten thousand persons present—the chief men and women of the city, the highest officials, senators, members of Congress, divines, soldiers, scholars, artists and literates.

The procession was soon in motion, and at the gates of the Navy Yard, carriages were in waiting for the members of the Embassy, and as soon as they had seated themselves, the splendid cavalcade moved slowly on to Willard's. Every window and corridor, the roofs of all the houses, in and around the Navy Yard, and all along the line of march, were crowded with human beings; beautiful women being conspicuous everywhere, and, we fear, too, sadly crushed everywhere—bonnets and crinoline all indiscriminately and mercilessly ruined. The streets themselves were utterly choked by the eager multitudes. Banners waved from the windows, and roofs and steeples, and from all public buildings, and the bands enlivened the scene with music.

The Embassy arrived at Willard's at about 2 o'clock P. M., where a magnificent suite of rooms had been prepared for them; the excited crowd remaining outside for hours afterward.

The scene in the corridor of the Hotel was very interesting; the gay costume of the ladies, and the manly height of our gentlemen, contrasting by no means favorably for the Japanese, who by the way, seem to take readily and kindly enough to our ways, and look perfectly happy and contented. Their walk is particularly ungraceful, and their shoes are not calculated to improve it. They are very agreeable to every one, and walk about, curiously prying into everything, and are very apt at learning and imitating. They pick up English words with

remarkable facility. The visitors keep them hard at work, writing their names for them on cards in the Japanese characters ; and they seem to be quite smitten with the beautiful ladies that are stopping at Willard's ; the smiting, however, is all on one side.

We had the pleasure of dining with some of the Embassy, and jolly fellows they were. They ate of everything set before them, and drank hock and champagne to wash it down. At night the Embassadors sat at their windows, and laughed merrily, almost falling off their chairs with glee at the sights which met their gaze below ; at the strange ways, tastes, exclamations and grimaces of the crowd, who would not leave the front of the Hotel.

Your artist Mr. A. Waud, presented one of the Japanese last night with a dollar bill, and he could not for the life of him understand, first, that the money could by possibility be given to him, and, secondly, how two half dollars could be equal in value to that bit of dirty paper, or how the dirty bit of paper could be equal to them. He insisted on having the gentleman who gave him the money write his name on a large sized card, which he drew from a side pocket, and upon which were also several other names. The gentleman did as desired, when the Imperial, after minutely viewing the same, took out his pencil and wrote the name in his own chirography, after which he wrote it in English, showing his power of imitation by the skill and correctness with which he copied the name. Like the Chinese, they always write in a perpendicular line, commencing at the top and ending at the bottom of the page.

The following is a list of the chief members of the Embassy :

Simme-Bujen-no Kami, First Ambassador (Shimmi Buzen-no Kami).

Muragake-Awage-no Kami, Second Ambassador (Muragaki Awaji-no-Kami).

Ogure-Bungo-no Kami, Chief Censor or Adviser of the Embassadors.

Monta Okataro (Morita Okataro, Vice-Governor (Pay master).

Naruse Gensire (Zenshiro) and Skahara Jhugoro (Tsukahara Jugoro), officers of the first rank belonging to the Embassadors.

Hetaka Kasaburo (Hidaka Keizaburo) and Osakabe Tetstaro, officers of the first rank belonging to the Censor or Adviser.

Matsmoto Sannojiro and Yosida Sagosaimon, under officers belonging to the Embassadors.

Masudu Sunjura (Masuzu Shunjiro) and Tuge Hosingoro, (Tsuji Yoshigoro) under officers of the Vice-Governor.

Kuri-sima-hico-hatsiro (Kurishima Hikohachiro) and Sewo-sawa-scogera, (Shiosawa Hikojiro) under officers of the Censor.

Mamura Gohatsiro, (Namura Gohachiro) Tateish Tokujoro (Tateishi Tokujuro) and Tateish Onagero, (Tateishi Onojiro) interpreters.

Meodake (Miyazaki), Moranyama (Murayama) and Cowasaki (Kawasaki), doctors.

Officers .....	20
Servants .....	<u>51</u>
Total .....	71

The Washington papers furnish us with the following gossip :

"About half-past 10 o'clock Capt. Lee appeared, and directed one of the servants to conduct this Imperial to his room, as, he stated, it was time he should retire. This servant, for some reason, did not perform this duty himself, but went and informed another of the same class, who approached the Imperial in a manner which we in this country would regard as rather singular, and bade him follow him. The Imperial promptly and cheerfully obeyed, very politely bidding adieu to those around.

"During the stay of the Embassy in Washington, which will be for the period of three weeks, the Marine Band will play every night at the quarters in Willard's Hotel.

"A censor to one of the Embassadors, in coming up the avenue yesterday, expressed considerable displeasure, on passing the store of Wall & Stephens, at seeing the flag of Japan floating beneath the stars and stripes, from the windows of that establishment.

"The three elderly bald-headed personages of the suite are the Imperial doctors of the expedition, and accordingly wear a very sage demeanor in virtue of their high and grave office. All of the Imperials may be distinguished from those of lesser rank by their wearing white sandals."

On their arrival at Willard's, the treasurer of the expedition deposited with the proprietors a sum of money amounting to \$98,000 in specie, which was duly locked up in the huge iron safe of the establishment.

Presents pour in upon the Japanese visitors on all hands. The articles presented are valuable to them, by reason of their novelty, even if of little intrinsic worth; and they express high gratification at these little courtesies. This morning our neighbor

Metzerott waited on them and presented each with a set of his beautiful views of Washington, with which they were greatly delighted

On being installed in their sumptuous apartments at Willard's, yesterday, the dignitaries of the Embassy took their *otium cum dignitate*, seeking a brief repose in such a loll upon the rich divans of their parlors as they had probably had no previous opportunity of enjoying since embarking from Japan. Each one of them was only waited upon by his own servants, who glided noiselessly to and fro, bearing hot tea in miniature cups to some, peculiar cigarettes to others, & c. Curiosity, however, overcame their disposition for quiet, and they were visible for hours at their windows to the very large miscellaneous crowd assembled on the sidewalks to catch glimpses of them. The ladies passing seemed to be quite as much the objects of absorbing but not uncourteous curiosity to them, as they were to the dear creatures themselves. Our fair countrywomen may well be proud of the impression they evidently made upon the Japanese, the most courtly and polished people in the world. They had never had an opportunity to see any such display of Caucasian female loveliness as they witnessed in Washington, and it evidently came near turning their heads, without, however, causing them for an instant to forget the duty of fastidious politeness, so universally an element of the very nature of their race, as it were.

**FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.**

*Washington, Thursday, May 17th.*

The reception at the White House has been something of a failure. You would have managed the affair better in New York,



and would have left a better impression upon the minds of the "illustrious strangers." Not that there was any absence of enthusiasm, or any want of inclination, on the part of the authorities here, to do the thing in the best style, and make the Japanese feel what a great people we Americans are, when we are at home; but the truth is they are not up to this sort of business, and I may say with equal truth that no city in the Union is up to it except New York. It will be your turn by and by—and then—if you will allow me to use a vulgarism—I hope and believe you will put them through, and show them all the live elephant.

Willard's Hotel is crowded to suffocation almost; and I never saw such splendid women, and so many of them, assembled before under one roof. It would tickle you mightily to see the Japanese, how they do ogle them; although I ought to add, in justice to the said Japanese, that they are in the highest degree courteous and affable, and that they did not "learn manners" at school for nothing. The ladies, of course, like to be taken notice of by them, the "observed of all observers;" and I don't believe them when I say that they in their turn take special and particular notice of the Japanese. I have not heard as yet, that any one of these splendid girls, or gorgeous women has fallen in love with any one particular Japanese, but the thing is not quite impossible; and Japan is not without its attractions and romances as a residence, if travelers' tales be true.

This morning the beauty of the city was all astir and ablaze betimes; and long before the hour appointed for the reception arrived, all the doors and corridors were full of excited guests. The programme, as I think I told you, very cruelly and ungalantly shut out the ladies, except the very favored ones, the

choicest of the land, from all hope of being present at the reception. But you know as well as I, that when the gentle "critters" want to do a thing, and mean to do it, they always find ways and means to accomplish their purpose. Now they were determined to go to the reception in spite of the President and all the officers of State, and go they did, to the utter astonishment of the President and all the nobs and big wigs. They got the honorable member from so and so, and so and so, to grace themselves by allowing them to accept their arms for the occasion, and by this means there was a very large attendance of the irresistible creatures, to see the show at the White House.

The Embassy, attended by their retinue of officers and by the Naval Commission, left Willard's between eleven and twelve o'clock this morning, and formed themselves into a procession for the President's house. It was certainly a very fine spectacle. The Japanese were all in open carriages, and they were specially and immediately escorted by a fine body of police without uniforms, twenty-five in front, and the same number in the rear. The Marine Band accompanied them, and the military formed on either side of the carriages.

The Prince was splendidly attired in a rich brocade purple silk wrap-rascal, or to speak more elegantly, in a rich silk sack. The other Princes were dressed in bright green tunics, similarly festooned, and all of them wore long, loose, and very womanly breeches—that is to say, pants—and sleeves as big and broad and full as an English bishop's lawn. In their hands they carried pikes and halberts, if not guns and bows, like the "good old Irish gentleman, one of the olden time."

To speak honestly, they looked a comical group, and noth-

ing but the remembrance that they were strangers and persons of mark in their own country, unused to western manners and habits, and that they had come here as the representatives of a great civilized nation—on a mission of amity and good will to us—nothing but this remembrance kept me from laughing heartily at their appearance. I know it would have been very wicked and very uncourteous—nay, downright barbarous—in me to have given way thus to the excessive titulations which agitated my diaphragm ; but I very nearly did it, notwithstanding, and come well nigh killing myself with internal convulsions, because I did not do it.

The spectators were as numerous and enthusiastic to day as yesterday, and thronged the streets and windows and the roofs of the houses all the way. The servants of the Embassy were as picturesque as their masters, and wore small hats, with triangular crowns, which were tied to their heads by a round band and by straps under the chin.

When the Embassy arrived, they found a splendid company assembled in the East room to receive them—amongst whom were the New York Municipal Committee, who had come to invite the Japanese to visit the Empire City. The Naval Officers then formed in line, and were immediately seconded in their movements by the Army Officers. Captain Tatnall and Lieut. Gen. Scott, with his staff, were the most prominent and distinguished officers of the two departments. These two lines left a space of about twenty-five or thirty feet, which was to be the platform on which the drama of the presentation was to be enacted.

The excitement, whilst the company were awaiting for the

President, was intense. At last the great doors were opened, and he entered, followed and supported by his Cabinet Ministers.

The duty of introducing the Embassy devolved upon Gen. Cass, who retired to an ante-room, and led them forth into the Presence. They were very polite, according to their custom, and stuck to their ancient formalities from first to last. When they entered, they bowed several times profoundly to the President ; and, as soon as they were fairly in the room, one of their number opened a series of boxes, and produced several letters, which were presented to the Chief Magistrate.

Then the Prince addressed them in the following words :

Desiring to establish on a firm and lasting foundation the relations of peace and commerce so happily existing between the two countries ;

That lately the Plenipotentiaries of both countries have negotiated and concluded a treaty ;

Now he has ordered us to exchange the ratification of the treaty in your principal City of Washington.

Henceforth he hopes that the friendly relation shall be held more and more lasting, and will be very happy to have your friendly feeling.

That you have brought us to the United States, and will send us back to Japan in your man-of-war.

This was the conclusion of the first act of the Play, and the Embassy bowed and retired.

In a short time they returned, bringing with them the Imperial Prince who, according to their rules of dignity, was not allowed to be present, when the scarlet satin envelope was opened which contained the letters accrediting the Embassy to

Washington. With profound bows, and grave, sedate faces, they again approached the President, whose own turn it was now to speak, which he did with his usual grace and facility, Mr. Portman acting as interpreter. The President said ;\*—

The President then handed them a copy of the address, and shook hands with them cordially all round. After this ceremony the inferior officers were introduced, and they did not seem in the least degree abashed, but preserved their usual calmness and imperturbable equanimity.

With these high sounding words I will conclude for to-day: merely adding that it is the intention of the Embassy to remain seven days at Washington, after which they will make a visit to Philadelphia for three days, and then give you an opportunity of showing them what New York is like, and what its hospitalities.

T. E. R.

P. S.—It was stated this afternoon at willard's Hotel that the Chief Minister ordered the interpreter to suppress a part of the Prince's speech to the President, this morning, as it contained allusions to matters which were not for the vulgar to hear.

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*Washington, Tuesday, 15, 1860.*

Our special artist, A. J. R. Waud, writing from Washington under the above date, says:

“ The reception is put off till Thursday, although it is not positive that it will come off then. Tomorrow I will send a sketch of the East room—which is to be the scene of the reception—and the figures, if possible, by the afternoon mail on Thursday.

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\* Omitted.

" The affair will be strictly private at first, but afterward the guests will be allowed to mingle with the Embassy and United States dignities. One of the Japanese doctors and an artist invited themselves to my room, to take my portrait. I send theirs with this. I have not had a chance to see any of them in full figure. They have not been out of the house yet, by orders from the chiefs, but not a portion of the house itself has escaped their scrutiny. On going into one of the parlors, to-day, five or six of them were found under the piano, looking for the music. When the flag was to be furled, a batch of them were found around the staff, looking all over the city, with greedy eyes, the cellars, cooking ranges, nothing too mean for their inspection. I gave one of them (the doctor) a map of Washington, and he desired that I should mark where they landed—the route and the hotel on it—to show friends in Japan. I inclose a print one of them swapped with me for a pencil sketch—and the artist cottoned on to my sketch of Ferri—directly he saw it—so I gave it to him. His sketch-book is filled with sketches of all they have seen since they left Japan, and portraits of officers and others.

" By the way, one of the Embassy *blew the gas out*, when he went to bed the other night, at Willard's, and was nearly suffocated before the mischief was discovered."

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Subjoined is the letter of credence addressed by the Tycoon to the President, and which was presented to the latter at the presentation on Thursday :

To His Majesty The President of The United States  
America, I express with respect—

Lately the Governor of Simoda, Insoge-Sinano-no-Cami,\* and the Metake-Iwasi-Hegno-no-Cami,† had negotiated and decided with Townsend Harris, the Minister Plenipotentiary of your country, an affair of amity and commerce, and concluded previously the treaty in the city of Yeddo, and now the ratification is sent with the Commissioners of Foreign Affairs, Siome-Buzen-no-Cami and Muragake-Awazi-no-Cami, to exchange the mutual treaty. It proceeds from a particular importance of affairs and a perfectly amicable feeling. Henceforth the intercourse of friendship shall be held between both countries, and benevolent feelings shall be cultivated, more and more, and never altered. Because the now deputed three subjects are those whom I have chosen and confided in for the present post, I desire you to grant them your consideration, charity, and respect. Herewith I desire you to spread my sincere wish for friendly relations, and also I have the honor to congratulate you on the security and welfare of your country.

The 16th day, first month of the seventh year of Ausay Sai.‡

(Sealed)

[Name]

The State Department received by the last mail from the Pacific, the bill rendered by the Panama Railroad Company against the United States for the passage across that route of the Japanese Embassy. They charged the enormous sum of three thousand one hundred dollars for simply carrying them across. The charge is outrageous.

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\* Inouye Shinano-no-Kami.

† Metsuke, Censor, Iwase Higono-Kami.

‡ "Ausay Sai" Should be "Ansei," which was afterward changed to "Man-en" during that year, and is generally Known in the latter name.

The steamship Niagara is fitting up and will convey the Japanese Embassy to Japan, or elsewhere, if required. Mr. Delno, the Naval Constructor, has just returned from Washington, where he has been on official duty connected with the fitting out of the Niagara. He says that the Secretary of Navy gave orders to fit her out forthwith, regardless of expense. She is in very good trim at present, consequently there will be but little to do on her, except to build a new cabin on the spar-deck, for the accommodation of the Commissioners, put her masts in, and paint her. She will be ready in less than two weeks, and will sail forthwith for Panama, via Cape Horn, where she will meet the Japanese Commissioners on their return to Japan, and convey them to Yeddo, the capital of their country. (*New York Illustrated News*, May 26th, 1860.)

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Gen. Scott will remain in Washington till after the Japanese are received, as the President is anxious our great warrior should be present on that interesting occasion. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, May 26, 1860.)

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G. W. Burr, of Broadway, has many specimens of Japanese coins at his store—one of them, a hundred dollar gold coin, is about the size of a decent sized platter.....

Mayor Lincoln has invited the Japanese to visit Boston. No time has yet been named for it.....(*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 2, 1860.)

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## **THE JAPANESE EMBASSY IN AMERICA.**

In our last we related the progress of this most interesting Embassy from Yeddo to its arrival at the Navy Yard, Washington. We have now received sketches from the special artists we dispatched to the Federal capital, illustrating the most interesting incidents of their visit to the seat of government, some of which we now present to the public.

### **RECEPTION OF THE JAPANESE AT THE NAVY YARD.**

When it was learned at Washington that the Roanoke had positively arrived at Hampton Roads, the Japanese excitement stock went up one hundred per cent. In anticipation of the event, the Navy Yard had for a fortnight previous been thoroughly cleaned and renovated, and presented a fine appearance. The Japanese flag had been mounted, walks laid, and everything arranged in "apple pie order." As the steamer drew up to the wharf at twenty minutes before twelve, the expectant multitude were gratified by hearing from her band the gay strains of "The Star Spangled Banner" and "Hail Columbia," and by seeing several Japanese standing on the guards. Among them and in all the confusion, one, an artist, was busy with his sheets of colored paper as though alone in his studio. At a quarter past twelve the debarkation began, at which time the Mayor and City Council of Washington had arrived, and with them several detachments of marines and of the volunteer companies of the city. The city authorities, accompanied by a number of officers of the navy and army, now walked to the gangway of the steamer, where the Mayor was introduced by Captain Dupont to the Am-

bassadors and Councillors. The Mayor in a few brief but very appropriate remarks then welcomed the Embassy, to which Sinme-bojen No-kami replied laconically through the chief interpreter. A salute of seventeen guns was then fired from the Dahlgren battery, and the first Ambassador, arm-in-arm with Captain Dupont, headed the procession, and marched on to the carriages waiting to receive them. Before reaching the vehicles they were, however, again arrested by Comondore Buchanan, who stepping forward welcomed them in the name of the President of the United States and our people. To his compliments the Ambassadors bowed and briefly expressed thanks. After this the procession advanced, each ambassador being escorted by an American officer. The celebrated Nourimon, or black lacquered frame-case, shaped like a small house; and containing the treaty box, figured conspicuously in the array. It was borne by two men and jealously watched.

Having reached the end of the walk where the carriages should have been, none were to be found, and the procession was accordingly kept waiting for a quarter of an hour. Finally the vehicles made their appearance. The Japanese and their military friends entered, the military formed a procession preceding them, the escort consisting of the President's Mounted Guard, a detachment of the Marine Band, the Washington Light Infantry, the National Guards and several other companies, the whole presenting a very fine appearance. The attending retinue of the Japanese followed some time after in omnibuses, the treaty case being placed on the roof of one of those vehicles.

## **ARRIVAL OF THE JAPANESE LUGGAGE AT WILLARD'S HOTEL.**

After much trouble and delay on the part of the suite, the officers having them in charge assigned them their quarters, and then commenced a scene which no artist could describe—the unpacking of their baggage. Everything was strewn over the floor, without any regard to order or regularity, until they got possession of their charcoal furnaces, when a fire was immediately lighted, and three or four, in groups, were seated on the floor around a furnace, smoking their pipes.

## **THE JAPANESE TAKING THEIR FIRST DINNER AT WILLARD'S.**

It is almost needless to say that from the beginning, notwithstanding the notices posted to the effect that “none but the guests of the house are admitted,” the Japanese, after arriving at Willard's Hotel, were run down by impertinent and vulgar intruders. The gentlemanly indifference of the Japanese and their courtesy to all who addressed them, appeared in striking contrast to the silly questions and childish or boorish curiosity of the intruders. The Oriental strangers were very affable, wrote autographs and gave their tobacco or other trifling objects with great liberality to those who begged from them, and in short, adapted themselves with great goodnature to the barbarians who crowded around. At half past four the principal men of the Embassy sat down to dinner, accompanied by a number of naval officers. Greatly to the disappointment of all who were on the lookout for something funny, the Japanese took wine and used knives and forks like any other well-bred-people. All passed off pleasantly enough.

Soon after arriving, the Japanese transferred their treasure, eighty thousand dollars, to Messrs. Willard for safe keeping. Many little anecdotes are current of their attempts at conversation in broken Dutch and English; of their smoking and lending their pipes and giving Japanese coins; from which it appears that they are good-natured, and regard those intruding on them very much as children or untaught persons should be regarded. To those, however, who have a fair right by position and courtesy to ask of them information, such as officials, reporters, artists and editors, they are very polite, and take great pains to impart the knowledge required.

#### **THE JAPANESE RECEIVING THE LADIES AT WILLARD'S.**

While the Japanese and their escort were on their way to Willard's, so dense was the crowd, that more than an hour was required to make the transit. On arriving, and before the wearied travellers retired to their quarters, another hour was passed in the exchange of courtesies, in which the ladies largely participated; the reception-rooms being thronged with the "wives, sisters and daughters of the dignitaries of the country" who had assembled to greet them. It is needless to say that the eager curiosity of the ladies was fully reciprocated by the amiability of the lions, who welcomed the dames with the utmost cordiality. It is said by the correspondent of a city contemporary, that since the Embassy has been in Washington, the dames of society have lavished on the two youngest and best-looking Japanese nobles almost as many endearments and favors as have been bestowed by the hotel chamber-maids on the attendants of the nobility in question. It is certain, that like all lions, no matter of what color, the ambas-

sadors have enjoyed as many marks of preference from ladies as heart could desire.

### **THEIR INTERVIEW WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.**

Early on the morning of the 16th inst., all Washington was on the *qui vive*, anticipating the ceremony of the presentation of the Japanese to the Secretary of State, Hon. Lewis Cass. The weather was bright and beautiful, and all were in high spirits, the Japanese especially so, as they appeared to be delighted at the prospect of a speedy acquaintance with the heads of Government and of accomplishing their mission. As the hour approached the Treasury Department was thronged ; the long portico was filled with ladies, while the avenue around the State Department was crowded to excess.

Having been much annoyed by crowding and intrusion and fearing a rush, the Japanese changed their programme of going together to the reception, and appeared singly at the Department. Their habitual caution was manifested by their sending the day before two of their officers to examine the rooms appropriated to their reception. The report being favorable, the Princes, with their suite, numbering in all eighteen persons, went under charge of Captain Dupont, to the State Department. For once the police were effective and repressed the crowd. The gentlemen, in fact, retired promptly when appealed to, but when the ladies had entered and completely blocked up the narrow passage-way of the State Department, they paid no attention to orders or etiquette.

The Princes now appeared at the head of the procession, the principal dignitary being led by Captain Dupont and the

younger by Commander Lee. Mr. Reed, of Philadelphia, once United States Minister to China, walked arm-in-arm with one of the lesser dignitaries, as did Mr. Preston, Minister to Spain, with another. Mr. Ledyard was also with them. Among those present were assistant Secretary, John Appleton, and Hon. J. S. Black, Attorney-General. The most scrupulous gravity and dignity was observed by the Japanese, and it was remarked that they looked at no one save those who took part in the ceremony. The box containing the treaty was most carefully watched, its guards holding their swords in their hands. They were led up to and were received by the Secretary of State with great dignity and urbanity, which evidently had a gratifying effect upon his guests. The following were his words on this occasion:

Your Excellencies—I am much gratified in receiving you at the Department of State, and in being able to assure you of the satisfaction of the people and Government of the United States at your arrival among us. We desire the firm establishment and continuance of the most friendly relations between our respective countries, and I trust that your visit will make us better acquainted with one another, and that the treaty, the ratifications of which we are about to exchange, will strengthen and extend the intercourse which already so happily exists. We hope you will be able to visit the different portions of the country, in every part of which you will be most kindly received; and it will afford the President pleasure to direct such measures to be taken for that purpose as may be agreeable to you, and also to extend to you the national hospitality while you remain in the country. I am directed by the President to inform you that he will receive you to-morrow, at noon, at the Executive Mansion, for the purpose

of presenting your letter of credence from his Majesty the Tycoon.

To this they replied in their usual brief manner, expressing, however, in very sensible though laconic phrase their gratification at their reception. The original documents addressed to Secretary Cass, and which were written in Japanese, Dutch and English, were then produced. They expressed the usual diplomatic formulas of friendship and regard, and stated that instead of a Japanese corvette proceeding to Panama, as had been expected, it would return directly from San Francisco. After their reply had been given the Ambassadors were invited to take chairs, which they did in a half circle. The Hon. J. S. Black, Attorney-General, was then introduced to them as the principal legal officer of the country. Other gentlemen were then introduced, and at a favorable moment General Cass presented three handsome little boys, of whom any relative might well be proud, to the Ambassadors. They were the sons of Mr. Ledyard, the son-in-law of General Cass. Just as the Japanese were about to depart, Miss Ledyard, the grand-daughter of General Cass, entered the room, followed, to quote the truthful and graphic account of the correspondent of the Herald, by the eyes, not only of the Japanese, but of everybody present. She also was introduced to the Japanese, who shook hands with her with uncommon heartiness. And now the ladies crowded in from an adjoining room with great rapidity, making the room quite warm, when General Cass remarked to the Japanese that he did not know how they regulated their ladies, but in this country the ladies regulated the gentlemen, and went just where they pleased. This was an apology for the presence of the ladies, and the Ambassadors replied, in a very grave manner,

that they observed that there was a very marked difference in the discipline of the two countries. The General could scarcely control his countenance with this sally from the Japanese, who evidently thought they possessed an advantage over this country in this respect. This was one of the most curious characteristic events which occurred, and made a sensation, though it has had no effect on restraining the fair sex in their attentions to the Orientals. Those who fly are followed.

The Japanese were then informed that if agreeable to them they could be presented to the President on the following day at twelve o'clock, to which arrangement they assented with manifest pleasure. Some inquiries were made by them relative to the etiquette of presentation, all of which was explained by the information that the President held a rank corresponding to that of their executive Emperor the Tycoon, and that they must govern themselves accordingly. They then departed in a quiet manner, and were escorted by their friends back to Willard's, General Cass shaking hands with the Ambassadors as they went out. It is worthy of mention, and may be borne in mind to advantage by those who forget the rights of the public, that General Cass showed the greatest courtesy to all the reporters, giving directions that they should be fully informed of all that had taken place, and particularly requested Mr. Portman to translate for them the remarks of the Japanese. After returning to the hotel the Japanese kept remarkably quiet during the rest of the day. They saw no visitors and retired early, either in consequence of fatigue or because they were desirous of keeping as much as possible remote from intercourse with any persons previous to their interview with the President.



### **THEIR INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT.**

On Thursday, May 17, at half-past eleven A.M., the Japanese Embassy went in carriages from Willard's Hotel to the President's House. They were escorted by fifty policemen in uniform, by marines and ordnance men, and were accompanied by a fine band of music. The Ambassadors were arrayed in state dresses of very singular style; the chief wearing a rich brocade purple silk sack, with flowing sleeves and trousers, while his two colleagues had similarly fashioned garments of green. They wore caps like inverted ladies' capes, fastened on the crown of the head by strings passing under the chin. They carried pikes, halberds and emblems of their rank. The inferior officers wore small hats, consisting of a round band, with triangular crowns, also tied to the head by strings under the chin.

In the East room great numbers of ladies had assembled, and with them the delegation of the New York Council, who had come to invite the Japanese to the Metropolis. Two lines were now formed by the Navy and Army officers, and between them a space of about twenty-five feet in width was left for the ceremonies. There was an anxious period of expectation, when at twelve o'clock the folding doors opened, there was a stir of excitement, and the President entered accompanied by the Cabinet officers. Secretary Cass then left for the ante-room, where the Japanese were waiting. When he returned with them they manifested their sense of the rank of their receivers by several profound bows. A nest of paper boxes was then opened by the Embassy and several letters produced, which were given

to the President and by him to General Cass. The leader then addressed the President as follows :\*

The President then gave them a copy of his address and shook hands with them. Introductions and hand shaking now became general ; the bows were then resumed and the foreigners retired, evidently much delighted with their reception.

During the whole ceremony the Japanese either looked steadily on the ground or directly at the President. Their entire demeanor was perfectly grave, respectful and well bred. It should be mentioned that when the Embassy first retired from the East Room it was for the purpose of bringing with them the Imperial or principal Ambassador, who, according to their etiquette, could not be present at the delivery of the letter accrediting them.

The letter in question was unrolled from a very large and splendid scarlet silk envelope. The interview, far from being absurd or amusing, as was anticipated, was of a solemn and serious character. Through the strange differences of dress, language and custom it was evident that the Ambassadors were men of high character, honor, intelligence and refinement, and that the New World could teach them no lessons in propriety of demeanor or in a due sense of official responsibility.

#### **THE NEW YORK DELEGATION AND THE JAPANESE.**

As is well known, the citizens of New York, the great commercial centre of the Union, are extremely desirous not merely of seeing the Japanese but of extending to them all the courtesies in their power. For this purpose the Sub-Committee of the

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\* Already reproduced.

Joint Committee, appointed to receive them, remained for several days in Washington. It consisted of Messrs. Shaw, Lent, Hall, Starr, Van Wart and Van Tine.

Notwithstanding the very important position which they filled, as representing the principal city in the Union, and the one which has proposed to do the most in welcome. they endeavored in vain for several hours to obtain an interview with the Committee having charge of the Embassy, and were about to appeal to the Secretary of State when the Secretary of the Committee fortunately realized that they might be regarded as having some right to be heard. They were then introduced to Captains Dupont, Porter and Lee. It was to the reporter of the New York Times that the Committee were indebted for an introduction to the Secretary, and we give in full his account of the interview, at which he was present, as it refers particularly to the programme of Japanese movements in our city.

Councilman Shaw having been deputed by his associates, then inquires of Captain Dupont whether he (Captain D.) was the proper person to whom communications to the Japanese should be addressed.

Captain Dupont replied that he had been commissioned by the President to take charge of the Embassy during their stay in this country. They were a ceremonial people, and their ideas were in favor of being under the continued charge of the Government.

Councilman Shaw then tendered to the Japanese Embassy, through Captain Dupont, the hospitalities of the City of New York. He considered that this was the event of the age, and that New York should fittingly exhibit her appreciation of it, in

its bearings upon the commercial metropolis of the Western World. On behalf of New York, they desired to receive the Embassy with all due courtesy, and with especial care to conform to the wishes of the guests in every respect. In order to promote these objects, they proposed to visit the Ambassadors, if possible or necessary, and come to some definite conclusion.

Captain Dupont, on behalf of the Government, was happy to welcome the delegation, and to receive, on behalf of the Embassy, the invitation to visit New York. Having just received the Government programme, he could inform them that to-day the Embassy would visit the Secretary of State, to-morrow the President and Diplomatic Corps, and after that they would be at liberty. He would take pleasure in fixing the date for introducing the New York Common Council at the earliest possible moment, and inform them in season. All presentation to them was, however, out of the question until after they had seen the President, for that was their wish. He had only succeeded in procuring a brief interview for a delegation of Congress, on the representation that they were members of the General Government. They were exceedingly averse to communication with any but the Government officials until after their presentation.

Councilman Lent took the liberty of inquiring of Captain Dupont what preparations the city authorities were expected to make with reference to the manner in which the reception should be conducted, and with regard to the continuation of his (Captain D.'s) position while in New York.

Captain Dupont said that was a very interesting question. He felt bound to be with the Embassy, and to see that the fact of their being the guests of the Government would not be lost

sight of. There would, of course, be no objection to the providing of accommodations, and the general provision of means for making the visit pleasant. He would, however, suggest to the Committee that perhaps the advisory counsel of Captains Lee and Porter would be necessary to making the arrangement as pleasing to the guests, as those familiar with them could more readily advise upon such matters. He recognized this as the leading event of the age, and a high compliment to America, in consideration of the counter efforts of England and France, and hoped that all Committees would concur in endeavoring to conduct the receptions as agreeably to the Japanese ideas of propriety as possible. He would caution the Committee against subjecting the Embassy to too much physical endurance. They were princes, and unused to great exertion, and were likely to be overcome with assiduous attentions. He suggested that they were more interested in national defences and machinery than most anything else, and hardly ready to take in our eleemosynary institutions. He would advise that they be not taken through the prisons and hospitals, for fear of giving them wrong impressions. They had with them a corps of engineers and artists, who could in many cases take the place of the Ambassadors in examining public works, &c., and thus save their superiors much time. His experience proved that they were not a feasting people. They had been much misrepresented in this respect, as they were fearful of being led to eat so much as to affect their health. He would also suggest that all communications be made in the briefest possible style, on account of the difficulty of translating from English into Dutch, and from Dutch into Japanese. He had no doubt that they would be

delighted and astonished with their visit to New York.

The New Yorkers then retired with the assurance that they would be informed at the earliest possible moment of the time when the Embassy would receive them. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 2, 1860.)

#### WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

The illustrations of the Japanese visit in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper are the theme of universal approval. The scenes at the landing giving the *coup d'œil* of the curious and brilliant crowd, the procession of the Ambassadorial cortège to the Executive mansion, and the magnificent four-page historical picture of the reception of the Embassy by the President of the United States attended by his Cabinet, General Scott, and the leading officers of the army and navy, are pronounced unequalled in the history past and present of pictorial newspapers in this country. I do you and your readers but justice in writing the unbiased and enthusiastic opinion of all here on these splendid specimens of art. The Japanese easily recognized several of the more historical scenes. They will be preserved by the artist and historian of the mission and no doubt will be incorporated into the account which will be laid before the Tycoon and the Mikado. The President was greatly struck with the tactfulness, not only of the general scene in the East Room on the occasion of the reception, but with the uniform excellence of the likenesses of himself, (Secretary) Cass, Floyd, Toucey (this particularly lifelike), General Scott and the Japanese princes.

These latter have given several receptions, and preserved throughout the particular observance of etiquette for which they

are distinguished. For instance, one day they received the members of the Cabinet and their families, the next day was set apart for Senators and Representatives and their better-halves ; the next for the officers of the Army and Navy, and the next for the citizens. Thus they gave to each branch of the public service that exact relative position which they hold towards the Government. On these occasions the princes were more noticeable for a desire to be affable than before. The nobles and officers of the under grades now mix freely with the people about their hotel, and I have seen some of them on the avenue and in the stores on Seventh street. They wear their swords on all occasions in the street to show their dignity. Three or four of the nobles paid a visit to a trinket and toy shop and attracted a great crowd, and the same day took a private view of some of the scenes of Waugh's Panorama of Italy.

The commissioners having them in charge, with their ob-servant and attentive secretary, Dr. McDonald, lose no opportunity to make their visit as pleasant as possible to the embassy. On two occasions these curious people were more than usually interested. One was when viewing a large assortment of stereoscopic views exhibited by Philps & Solomon, the booksellers, of this city, and the other was when Spalding—not general William, the politician, of this city, but he of the “ Prepared Glue ”—exhibited his sticking-stuff to them. Mr. Phelps gave them much delight with his pictures, and it was curious to see them look up in the air to contrast the sight of things as they were after gazing through the glasses of the stereoscope at extended landscapes and social scenes on bits of paper two inches square. Mr. Spalding interested them equally, and set their inventive genius to

work. They are much more delighted with things which are practical than by any ball or reception which is given them. Their scientific man regarded Spalding's pot and brush as something bordering on the magical, and made many experiments with the glue. In vain the Japanese tried to break joints of wood which had been glued, and they were not more astonished at its tenacity than its general applicability to all broken things. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 9, 1890.)

## JAPANESE IN AMERICA.

### THE GROUP AT THE YARD.

On the 23rd the Japanese Embassy visited the Navy Yard, and we engrave the group as it appeared on that interesting occasion. In our last number, page 29. We gave a detailed account of the visit of these distinguished foreigners, and we therefore refer our readers to it for full particulars.

As a memento of this remarkable event we recapitulate the names of our distinguished guests and those who accompanied them, together with our own officials: Sinme Bugen No Kamie, the First Ambassador; Muragake Awagi No Kamie, Second Ambassador; Aguri Bungo No Kamie, Third Ambassador; Naruse Gensiro, Lieutenant-Governor, Chief Executive Officer of the Embassy; Tskaharo Jugoro, Lieutenant-Governor, Second Executive Officer of the Embassy; Kurisima Hechohatsero, the Spy or Censor, and Moruta Okataro, Treasury Official of high rank. Our own officials present were Captain Dupont, Captain McBlair, Captain Porter, Lieutenant Nicholson, Lieutenant Lewis, Mr. Sims, Commodore Buchanan, Lieutenant Maury, Purser Watson and other distinguished officials. Our engraving



represents them as they stood awaiting the experiments in firing the Dahlgren guns.

### THE JAPANESE AND THE CHILDREN.

On the 23rd of May a ball was given by Carusi, the long and well-known teacher of dancing and leader of festive meetings in Washington. The ball in question came off at Willard's ball-room, and was intended for the special delectation of the Japanese. A great number of beautiful young girls, many of them highly respectable, were assembled for the amusement of the tawny Orientals, who had quite got over their early prejudices against shaking hands with females *en etiquette*. Miss Tenny, the May Queen, had the distinguished honor to be presented by Captain Porter to the Ambassadors, "a novel and interesting event in the life of the Princess." Sixteen of the Embassy were present, all of whom were so much gratified by the sight of the little girls that they remained for about two hours, and were specially delighted with the performance of one little miss who executed the Castanet dance with singular grace and spirit. This was not, however, their only introduction to young female America, if we may judge by the following extract from the correspondence of the *Herald*:

"It may seem strange, but such is the fact, that for the last two days hundreds of little girls and big girls, or, as the Japanese call them, "Little American womans—very nice," most of them school girls from six to twelve years old, handsome and prettily dressed, have been on the sidewalk under the windows of the Japanese at Willard's throwing up bouquets, candy and all sorts of nicknacks, calling out, 'Japonee, Japonee! give me a fan, won't you?' 'Japonee, give me a pipe, won't you?' 'Japonee, give me a cent!' 'Japonee, give me your name!' At the same

time boys and darkeys calling out, 'Say, Jack, does your mother know you're out?' 'Say, Japonee, do you want to buy some cats?' 'Say, Tycoon, do you like mice?' and thousands of other questions. The Orientals lie back in their velvet cushioned chairs, laugh and play all sorts of tricks on the youngsters outside, by throwing out bits of paper. Occasionally one would have Japanese candy inside, or else sit curled up on the velvet carpet, smoking, in front of the window. This and similar scenes were going on at a dozen windows at the same time.

"The police do not wish to treat these little and big 'American womans' rudely, as the Japanese enjoy it as much as the outsiders do."

#### **PRESIDENTIAL BANQUET TO THE JAPANESE.**

On the 24th May that great event, the Presidential Banquet to the Japanese Embassy, took place. At six o'clock the eight most elevated in rank of our illustrious strangers left the hotel in carriages, and were driven to the White House. They were dressed in the same robes they wore when they visited the Navy Yard, that is to say, they seemed the same, but they might be others of the same pattern, for the Japanese are very fond of new habiliments. When they arrived at the White House they were received by the President, who introduced his charming niece, Miss Harriet Lane, to them. A person who was present thus describes this interesting and novel scene :

All and several of the Japanese partook largely of turtle soup with a relish that would have done credit to a London alderman ; that they all proved themselves excellent connoisseurs in the selection of dishes, and that they were epicurean in the variety of their choice ; but they partook very sparingly of each dish. In wines they exhibited a decided preference

for champagne, and just as decided repugnance to claret,, which in their vernacular they called vinegar. They drank pretty copiously of beer, and tasted sherry. After the halibut, to which they did full justice, they chiefly patronized pigeons, roast chicken, chicken and lobster salad, and boiled Ham. They were not behind their neighbors of the white skin in the demolition of light confections, including ice creams; and their former repugnance to strawberries was completely overcome.

There were present on the memorable occasion, the President and Miss Lane, the two princely Ambassadors, Censor, Vice-Governor, and the next four highest officials. Besides these, all the members of the Cabinet and their ladies were present, together with Captain Dupont, Captain Porter and Commander Lee.

The President and his niece were agreeably profuse in their compliments to their guests, and the interpreters, who stood near them, much to their own private disgust (for they dislike standing two hours together under such circumstances), wearing, as Bryant says—

The shadowed livery of the burnished sun,  
had all their translativè powers fully tested in conveying these compliments to their highnesses.

But the good things of this world do not last for ever, and before half-past eight the great event of the day was over, and the Japanese having previously shaken hands all round, were taken home like good boys, and not exactly put to bed, but put where the beds were.

There was no change in their appearance on returning. They neither looked intoxicated with pleasure nor elated with

wine, nor puffed with dinner, which was just as I expected and just as it should be. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 9, 1860.)

### **PRESENTS FROM THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.**

Among the many splendid presents which were recently delivered by the Japanese from their Emperor to the President of the United States, the blinds which we illustrate this week are worthy particular notice. The foundation is of the richest silk, brocaded in the most superb style in elegant designs. The brocade or raised work is touched up by color which imparts a gorgeous richness to the design. These blinds are splendid specimens of the perfection to which the Japanese have brought this class of manufacture. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 9, 1860.)

### **THE GRAND JAPANESE.**

#### **FETE CHAMPETRE, AT WASHINGTON HEIGHTS.**

*By our special correspondent.*

The visit of the Japanese Embassy to this country is not one of mere pleasure or idle curiosity. They have arrived here as the representatives of a nation whose science, literature, commerce and arts have hitherto been to us a sealed volume. The efforts of European nations to open commercial relation with them, or even to excite their interest or curiosity in other countries, have proved a comparative failure. When, therefore, by simple diplomacy, we have been enabled to overcome the established law of non-intercourse, and have persuaded the Tycoon to permit his representatives to visit us, it is proper and right that we should, by every means in our power, impress them with a respect for

us—a respect for our wealth, our commercial greatness, our manufacturing power, and our habits of social life.

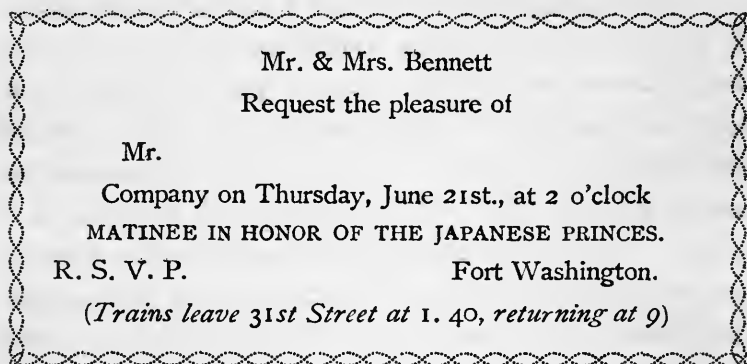
This should be our aim, and not the gratification of a mere curiosity.

The thinking portion of our people would seem to be actuated by such a motive, and in this connection we may refer to the *Fete Chapetre* given by Mr. and Mrs. James Gordon Bennett to the Japanese Princes at Washington Heights. That splendid social panorama, with all its varied elegances, was not merely an attempt to show what wealth and taste could perform, but it was to exhibit to our foreign guests the refinement of our people as displayed in adornment and manners, beauty and intellect. The greatest evidence of the truth and popularity of a government is in the contentment of the people, and the scenes which the Japanese witnessed, and which they formed a material portion of on Thursday last, must have convinced them that we are as great in a social as we are in a commercial point of view.

Society loves a sensation—loves something effective, startling and novel. It is something to talk about—something to embellish the monotony of existence. Our Fifth Avenue and Madison Avenue splendors are fast becoming antique and a bore—the social happiness behind those solid sombre stone fronts, consists in luxurious damask and rosewood, Parties are nothing but a crush of crinoline and black cloth. Every one spoils their attire, and too many delight in upsetting champagne over ladies' shoulders and cramming ice cream into gentlemen's dress coat pockets. This is unpleasant, and what is still more so, 'tis that there is always about four times the number of persons invited than there is space for their convenience and comfort. We, therefore, hail

with pleasure, any innovation or elegant novelty that gives the death thrust to these monstrosities.

Some of these thoughts flashed on me as I pondered on the following card, which was lying on my table :



Here, then, I thought, will be a fair chance for our Japanese friends to see New York society, unrestricted by the grim forms of city etiquette. I felt assured that the well-known exquisite taste of Mrs. Bennett and the liberal hospitality of James Gordon Bennett, Esq., would render the occasion one of a character so remarkable as to make a lasting impression on the Japanese Princes, and on all who were favored by an invitation. And so it proved.

The *Fete Champetre* made its *debut* in New York on Thursday last, before an audience aristocratic and artistic in the highest degree. It was an unequivocal and a brilliant success. May it inaugurate a new *régime*. But having tantalized our readers sufficiently to gratify our morbid desire to make people miserable, we shall proceed at once to describe with the pen portions of that which the artists have so admirably done with

the pencil. On the banks of our noble Hudson, prominently and grandly situated, there are numerous palatial mansions, where many of our wealthy citizens retire to enjoy the contentment of rural existence. This spot is called Washington Heights.

The *Fete Champetre* was held here, and a thousand people joined in making it a triumph. As we approached the entrance, we perceived evidences of the vast preparations which had been made. Through the rich foliage of the trees hundreds of small flags, Japanese and American, could be seen. At the entrance, a triumphal arch of evergreens, flowers and flags had been erected. We passed on beneath the shade of trees, when a dazzling sight met our view. The chateau was richly, indeed magnificently, adorned with flags, which were arranged in folds and festoons. The vast crowds of elegant and beautiful women roaming on the lawn, promenading the gravelled walks, or lounging on the piazza, seemed like a rich *parterre* of flowers, so bright and varied were the colors of their adornment. Pressing forward as best we could through the gay throng, we were ushered into the presence of the hostess who presided over this gay and almost Oriental scene. The valet announced our name as we entered.

We take another path that leads down a bank to the bordering shore of the Hudson, and view the far-famed yacht Rebecca, now gaily decorated with flags. But Neptune soon vanishes, and Bacchus with a jovial face invites us to the vines. We wander fox-like through the conservatories and graperies; we perceive no forbidding sign of "Visitors are particularly requested not to touch the fruits and flowers," but on the contrary; and so we plucked the emerald and sapphire-hued

grapes from their feeble vines, and luxuriously enjoyed them. Then we mingled with humanity again, and following in its train we were ushered into a banquet hall merry with the music of knives and forks, glasses and corkpopping. Here was the crowd, Epicurus was represented by the immortal Delmonico, and right well with his army of waiters did he perform his ministerial duties. The charge of the Zouaves and Turcos at Solferino was as nothing compared with the Light Brigade this day. Forward rushed the six hundred. But seriously speaking, the banquet was royal. Delicately speckled trout by the hundred, game of every variety, tropical fruits prodigal in price, rich wines enough to make a small lake, huge pasties and mavelously curious pyramids adorned the table ; as fast as they disappeared, fresh recruits took the place of the regulars.

But we will not tantalise the appetite of the miserable millions who were not there. "Personne" may, if he likes, and he should. Personne was immense this day, talkative, witty, willing to do everything for every one, and even coquetting with Lady Green Seal. The honorable and dignified Mayor was as affable to-day as if he never knew the cases of state. The host, whose liberal hand supplied all this entertainment, was as young looking to-day as he was twenty years since. It would have made his enemies miserable to see that twenty years of attack had not subdued his hearty laugh. He joked with Tommy, and made himself agreeable to the princes. Prince John Van Buren was also in the throng, courtly and dignified as he always is. Even Erastus Brooks forgot he was a Know-Nothing, he was contemplative and thoughtful ; while Simeon Leland had added four degrees of intensity to his usual good-humored face. A



certain gentleman, named Frank L-s-l-e—we won't mention his name—entered fully into the spirit of the scene ; he flirted with Mdle. Flora, the Countess Heidsieck, Lieut. Quail and Col. Ham in a frightful manner. We only wish we could mention the names and describe the beauty and elegance of the ladies there ; but that is sacred, and no writer must violate the sanctity of private life. But we know that the Army and Navy, with their killing buttons and glittering epaulettes, did dreadful execution among certain hearts. There were Captains Ward, Dupont, Porter and Rogers, of the Navy ; while the Army was represented by Captain Benham, Lieutenants Morris, Winder, Crilley, Worth, Sweeney, Arnold Webb, Granger, McNelly, Cogswell and Stone. Then there were historians, poets, artists and literary men. All alike forgot the outside world, and entered with a zeal into the glorious social carnival in honor of the Japanese Princes. Count Gurowski, a live count, will put less vinegar into his next historical article.

The Japanese Princes arrived about four P.M., and were at once presented to Mrs. J. G. Bennett, who received them with graceful dignity. Their manner towards their hostess was marked by much dignity, courtesy and *empressement*. Mr. Bennett accompanied the Princes and Captain Dupont, not to mention "Tommy," through his house and over the grounds, with which they seemed very greatly delighted. They partook also of the gorgeous banquet prepared for them and other guests, and seemed to enjoy themselves with infinite relish. They seem to appreciate the richness and rarity of certain vintages as well as the most experienced connoisseur. Nothing good is thrown away upon them. They remained on the grounds

between two and three hours, and expressed themselves highly delighted with the attention, kindness and boundless hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Bennett.

But we must draw our letter to a close. To say that the festivities lasted for hours, unmarred by a single unpleasantness ; that Mr. and Mrs. James Gordon Bennett and Mr. James Gordon Bennett, Jun., were unremitting in courtesy and attention to their guests, one and all ; that the guests themselves reciprocated the kindly feeling manifested by the generous givers of the entertainment ; and that, take it all in all it was the most complete, refined and elegantly successful private entertainment ever given on the banks of the Hudson, is but to state the unanimous opinion of the thousand delighted guests who will long remember the event. AUGUSTUS. (*Frank Leslie's Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

## THE JAPANESE EMBASSY IN AMERICA.

### RECEPTION OF THE JAPANESE AT THE BATTERY, NEW YORK.

Early on the morning of the 16th, crowds of well-dressed ladies and gentlemen collected on the Battery to welcome the Great Easterns, as some of our citizens called the Japanese Ambassadors.

About two o'clock, a telegraphic communication from Fort Hamilton announced that the *Alida* was passing that famous fort, and at half-past two the boom of cannon from Governor's Island told that the steamer was at the Battery. After the vessel had reached Castle Carden, the preparations were made for landing the illustrious visitors, which was accomplished amid

the cheers of the multitude, and the inspiring strains of Hail Columbia from Dodworth's band.

A detachment of the Eighth Regiment was the guard of honor, and performed the duty admirably. As soon as the gangway plank was placed on board the *Alida*, Mr. Warren Leland and Mr. Curtis landed, accompanied by Councilman Shaw. Alderman Boole kept guard at the gangway, and permitted none to leave the vessel till the Japanese were comfortably stowed away in the carriages provided for them. As they drove off under their gallant escort the applause was tremendous, Tommy coming in for the lion's share. Superintendent Kennedy, and his Deputy, Carpenter, were the masters of the police ceremonies, and acquitted themselves with their usual ability.

### **REVIEW OF THE MILITARY IN UNION SQUARE.**

One of the most stirring sights at the reception of the Japanese was the review of the troops in Union Square. At half-past four o'clock the head of the procession made its appearance on the west side of Union square. On arriving at Fifteenth street the Eighth regiment filed off and drew on one side, while the carriages containing the Embassy drove to a platform opposite Dr. Cheever's church, where they stopped. The three chief Ambassadors and the Treasurer here alighted, and were conducted to seats upon the platform—Major-General Sanford standing on their right, while the Committee of Reception stood on either side. Shortly after the military appeared with Dodworth's full band at their head, and paid the Ambassa-

dors the Honor of a marching salute as they filed past—the Ambassadors returning the compliment with their usual courtesy. When the Seventh Regiment appeared the air resounded with cheers. The order of march was in double broad columns, extending entirely across the avenue, and as they passed the Ambassadors' stand, marching with solid and even pace, the Japanese watched them with intense interest. Their curiosity was much excited by the appearance of the Daughter of the Regiment of the Guard Lafayette, and it was evident from their animated conversation they could not realise such a remarkable sight. This characteristic incident closed the review; the Embassy re-entered their carriages, and proceeded direct to their hospitable quarters at the Metropolitan, highly delighted with the wonders they had seen.

### **THE TREATY BOX PAGODA.**

The car pagoda containing the "Treaty Box," which attracted so much attention in the procession of the Japanese from the Battery to the Metropolitan Hotel, was a dashing and unique affair.

It ran on four wheels, with silvered hubs, which glistened in the sunlight as they rolled along, and above this was an elevated platform, the sides of which were gaily painted to represent festoons and wreaths of flowers, while real flowers hung in profusion wherever they could be attached. The word "Japanese Treaty" on the four sides indicated the object of the novel turnout. Above the platform, supported at each of the corners, was reared the roof or canopy, looking very like similar represen-

tations in Chinese pictures. Pendant from this was a fringe, on which was painted numerous hieroglyphics.

Above the whole structure a huge red ball, symbolic of the sun, loomed up, which in turn was surmounted by the American and Japanese flags.

"Tommy" and two attendants were seated on the platform guarding the treasure, with policemen walking besides, and as the novel vehicle, drawn by six magnificent horses passed through the crowded streets, it was hailed with shouts by the multitude. "Tommy" was delighted, and smilingly responded to the greetings of the people.

### **THE FLOWER PAGODA.**

Among the most remarkable and graceful courtesies in the form of a gift which have been paid the Japanese, is certainly that of the bower—if we may so call it—presented by Benjamin Wood, Esq., brother of Mayor Wood, and which was made for the Japanese from flowers grown in the garden of his farm. It was in reality a colossal bouquet in architectural form, and of such size that the Chief Ambassador entered it and sat there for some time, "like a bee in a rose," as a lady said. We have no doubt that among the agreeable and striking souvenirs of this country, "the Flower Pagoda," as it is called, will be specially remembered.

The pagoda in question was ten feet high by twelve in circumference, and was composed of hand bouquets set *en masse*.

## **MAYOR WOOD RECEIVING THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.**

On Monday, the 18th, Mayor Wood received the Japanese Embassy at the City Hall, with all that pomp and ceremony befitting the metropolis of America.

About two o'clock the approach of the Seventh Regiment heralded the arrival of the illustrious strangers. The First Ambassador, Simme Boojsen No-Kami, attended by Captain Dupont, the Third, Ogoore Bungo No-Kami, escorted by Captain Lee and others, were ushered into the Governor's Room. These were attended by the Vice-Governor, the Treasurer, and Tsukahara Jhugoro, with other members of their suite. Owing to the exclusive arrangements, not above a hundred persons were admitted into the Reception Room. The central apartment was the one selected by Mayor Wood to welcome his distinguish visitors.

The ancient writing table of Washington was placed at the east end of the room, a few feet from the mantel, and behind this, in citizen's dress, stood his Honor Mayor Wood. On his left was Governor Morgan, also in citizen's dress, while grouped behind him were Adjutant-General Townsend, Quartermaster-General Mitchell, Colonel Thomson, Major Skidmore, and other members of the Governor's staff in uniform. Major-General Sandford, of the First Division, was absent from the city, but he was represented by his staff, of whom there were present in uniform, Colonel Morell, Senior Officer of the First Division; Surgeon Sayre; Assistant Surgeon Woodward; Lieutenant-Colonel Bixby, and Majors Jones, Richards, Foster and Bradford; among the citizens were Colonel Alexander Hamilton,

Pelatiah Perrit, Esq., Hon. George Opdyke, J. Depeyster Ogden, and the Common Council.

The Ambassadorial deputation, preceded by the Committee, having entered the room, the four principal officers ranged themselves in a line in front of the table, and were severally introduced to Mr. Wood by Captain Dupont, according to their rank. With an easy, well-bred air, they removed their long gray gloves, reaching almost to the elbow, and in a dignified manner exchanged with the Mayor the American salutation of shaking hands, their attendants behind, meanwhile, bowing low, without attempting to press forward and imitate the example of their grave superiors. The entire delegation were radiant with the glory of clean talmas, spotless *pi-jamas* and irreproachable gaiters of white, while their richly mounted swords added to the natural dignity of their presence. Their attire appeared a little stiff and starched, and was evidently got up for the occasion, with a due consideration of the importance of a presentation to the Mayor of the great Yeddo of America.

After the Ambassadors had been formally introduced, the Mayor addressed them in a very appropriate speech, which was translated by Mr. Portman into Dutch, which was then put into Japanese by the Interpreter. The Chief Ambassador replied in a very few words, expressing the gratification he had in reciprocating the friendly sentiments of the Mayor. The Mayor bowed his acknowledgments with that suave courtesy for which he is famous.

After this, Governor Morgan addressed the interesting foreigners in a very brief manner, which was replied to by the Chief Ambassador.

The Mayor then invited them to walk through the rooms

and inspect the portraits, which they did with much apparent interest. The whole party then proceeded to the balcony and witnessed the evolutions of the Seventh Regiment, which seemed to afford them the highest pleasure.

They then proceeded to their carriages, and drove back to the Metropolitan Hotel. Thus ended the formal interview between the Princes of Japan and the Mayor of New York. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

#### AN UNEXPECTED VISIT.

On Friday our establishment received a visit from a portion of the Japanese Embassy, accompanied by Major Leland. They went through our various departments, the extent and completeness of which elicited their complimentary remarks.

They were shown our engraving-room, where they examined the process with much apparent interest. From the upper rooms they descended to our artists' apartment, where the portrait of one of our own artists, taken by the artist of the Embassy, caught their eye. Their recognition of it was very amusing. They evidently have a high opinion of their own style of portrait painting.

From thence they went into our spacious press-rooms, and watched with considerable curiosity the working off of some of our papers, which they took, with the intention of carrying with them to Japan. After an exchange of bows and autographs they took their leave. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

THE JAPANESE EMBASSY have been amusing themselves by visiting many of the principal stores of New York. On



Monday a portion devoted their attention to the inspection of D.W. Evans & Co.'s Gift Book Establishment, at 677 Broadway, and were shown through the establishment by the proprietors. The theory of the gift book business, being explained by an interpreter, caused them to open their twinkling Oriental eyes in wonder at the evidences of Yankee enterprise and perseverance ; and on being presented with a beautiful gift their cup of satisfaction overflowed, evincing their pleasure by a genuine " American shake hands " all around, a parting salute *a la* Japanese, and with a lingering look at the vast storehouse of " Knowledge and riches," they went on their way rejoicing. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

#### **THE JAPANESE BALL AT THE METROPOLITAN.**

The engraving on the preceding pages will show the unfortunates who were not present at the Metropolitan Ball on Monday what they missed, and may serve as a memorial of the Japanese visit to the city. The Ball was given, as every one knows, by the city, and was, probably, the finest public entertainment ever given in this country. It will, doubtless, be remembered with pleasure alike by the city's guests and by the citizens who assembled to do them honor.

Supper was laid for 10,000 persons, though the number of tickets issued was probably much more than ten thousand ; all the leading officials of this and the neighboring cities and our most distinguished citizens having been invited. Champagne, punch, and lemonade were provided by the barrel, and the edibles in equal profusion. Five bands of music discoursed sweet strains to the dancers.

Of the decorations of the scene, as depicted in our engraving, the *Herald* says :

“The great centre of attraction, and the feature of the reception, was the theatre, which was most lavishly decorated. The stage and parquette were floored over as a space for dancing. The seats were removed from the dress circle, and that space also was used by the dancers. The seats in the upper tiers were reserved for those who preferred looking upon the dancers ; and around these tiers and the ground-floor there was a splendid promenade, with arches of flowers. The whole theatre and stage formed a magnificent pavilion, with a canopy and sides of red and white damask, festooned with wreaths of flowers and hangings of rich silks. Three immense chandeliers were suspended from the ceiling, and side lights and candelabras were pendent from the columns. Upon each of the upper-tier boxes were wreaths of evergreen, inclosing the coats of arms of the different States of the Union, and the old decorations were concealed beneath festoons of red, white and blue. The columns were wreathed with flags, and upon each column was hung a banneret of silk, with appropriate inscriptions and devices. The lower tier was richly hung with draperies of silk and festoons of flowers, inclosing fanciful designs in plaster and gilt ; and upon the columns, instead of the bannerets, as in the upper tier, were suspended the flags of the different regiments of our city, gracefully festooned and draped with ribbons. Between the columns supporting this tier were arranged arches of evergreens and flowers forming a perfect arbor, and carrying the garden, into which the entire establishment was transformed, down to space for dancing. The dancing-floor in the theatre

was seventy feet wide by one hundred and fifty feet long, with accommodations for two thousand dancers. The band was placed upon an elevated dais, and the music for the entire reception was provided by Dodworth, one hundred and sixty of whose musicians were engaged. The floor was chalked in Byzantine style. The upper private boxes were concealed by the large standards of the city companies, and the lower boxes were arranged into niches of flowers containing statues of dancing nymphs supporting bouquets and garlands of flowers. The proscenium was draped with large American and Japanese flags, surmounted by twin figures of Fame, sounding their trumpets, and sustaining a large gilded American eagle, pendent from the claws of which was a medalion wreath, with a device of clasped hands in the centre.

“The stage was cleared back to the walls, and the entire space was set with a beautiful garden scene, lit up with bracket side-lights and candelabras. At the rear of the stage was erected a gorgeous Japanese pavilion, from designs furnished by one of the artists attached to the Embassy, represented as if standing in the midst of a garden. A private entrance, reserved exclusively for the Embassadors, communicated with this pavilion from the hotel, so that the Princes would retire to their rooms or be present among the distinguished throng, as they wished. This apartment was illuminated by candelabras, supported by gold statues, from the establishment of the Messrs. Haughwout.” (*Harper's Weekly*, June 30, 1860.)

#### **MOVEMENTS OF THE JAPANESE.**

On Saturday morning, 16th, the Japanese Embassy left Philadelphia without any formal escort or public demonstration

other than the crowds that flocked to stare at them. They arrived at Amboy at 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and were formally received by the special committee of the New York Common Council, on board the steamboat Alida. After a delightful sail up the bay, they landed at Pier 1, and were escorted up Broadway, Grand Street, Bowery, around Union Square, down Broadway to the Metropolitan Hotel, by the entire first division New York State Militia, consisting of over seven thousand men. The procession occupied about an hour in passing a given point. The streets and buildings all along the route were crowded with spectators, yet the excellent police arrangements of Superintendent Kennedy secured a speedy and uninterrupted passage for the procession—a seclusion from scrutiny and insult that must have pleased the princes after their experience in other cities. In the evening, the Metropolitan Hotel, where the Embassy is located in magnificent quarters, was illuminated in every window, and decorated with a thousand Japanese and American flags. The princes were also serenaded by Dodworth's Band. The entire arrangements were conducted in a manner that is said to have given satisfaction to the Embassy and the Naval Commission who have them in charge.

On Monday, 18th, the Embassy, in company with the Naval Commission and the Common Council, visited the Mayor and Governor at the City Hall, and were formally welcomed. The seventh Regiment, National Guards, turned out a volunteer escort of about 650 men to guard the visitors on the route. Addresses of welcome were made by Mayor Wood and Governor Morgan, and replied to by the Princes, who, after viewing the Governor's Room, were escorted back to the Metropolitan. The Embassy

was called upon in the morning by the Consul and Vice-Consul of the Netherlands, R. C. Burlage and J. E. Zimmerman.

On Tuesday the Embassy did not participate in any public ceremonies, in consequence of the rain.

On Wednesday the Embassy received, with great cordiality, a committee of twentyfour gentlemen from the Chamber of Commerce, and listened to an appropriate address from Pelatiah Perit on behalf of the delegation. They replied that they hoped for more extended commercial intercourse between Japan and the United States, and courteously invited the committee to call again, and in conversation inform the Embassy more fully of the desires and designs of American merchants. Various parties of the Japanese visited the matinee at the Academy of Music, the steamfrigate Niagara at the Navy-yard, and the Broadway stores.

On Thursday the Embassy visited the Central Park, and witnessed the planting of a Japanese tree. They also visited Washington Heights, the residence of Mr. J. G. Bennett. About thirty-five of the subordinate officers continued their shopping excursions.

On Friday, 22d, the Embassy kept quiet. Two of the officers and an interpreter had an interesting interview with the delegation from the Ethnological Society. Various parties went on shopping excursions, visited the Assay-office, Trinity Church, Custom-house, Exchange, Barnum's Museum, and other places of interest. (*Harper's Weekly*, June 30, 1860.)

#### **DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.**

On Friday, June 23, in the Senate, a resolution, providing that the Secretary of the interior shall contract for the erection

or purchase of a Government Printing Bureau, was reported, and caused some debate. The bill authorizing a loan of \$20,000,000 was received from the House, and passed. The Legislative Appropriation bill was also passed. The Post Route Bill was then taken up, and an amendment offered, allowing the Postmaster-General to provide for the overland transportation of the California mails. This gave rise to considerable debate. The bill provides for three overland routes ; a Northern weekly route, at a cost of \$200,000 ; a tri-weekly middle route, *via* Salt Lake at a cost of \$600,000, or daily at \$800,000 ; and a tri-weekly from New Orleans, *via* San Antonio, to connect with the Butterfield route at El Paso, for £ 200,000. In the evening session, after several hours' debate, it was informally laid aside, and the Post-offices Deficiency bill taken up. In the House, the unfinished business was transferred to the next session. The Committee or Conference on the Post-office Deficiency Bill, being unable to agree, were discharged from further service, and the House insisted on its amendment restoring the inland service discontinued in 1859. The Loan and Treasury Bill was passed, as were also a number of private bills. An important bill was reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, providing for the carrying out of treaty stipulations with China, Japan, Siam, Turkey, Tripoli, Tunis, Morocco, and Muscat, by conferring judicial functions on our Consuls there. (*Harper's Weekly*, June 30, 1860.)

### **"NEWS OF THE WEEK."**

Fifty-nine well known pickpockets were arrested on the day the Japanese arrived in New York. They were locked up till next morning. About twenty credulous New Yorkers made an

unconscious gift of their gold watches to perfect strangers in the course of the procession. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

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Aldermen Dayton and Kalbfleish, of Brooklyn, had quite a spar on Wednesday on the Japanese question. Kalbfleish, who can speak Dutch, wished to show off that rare accomplishment, being under the idea that the Nipponese speak that elegant language; but as the Comptroller swore in better English that he would not pay "nary cent" of the expense, the Japanese were speedily dropped. Lemon-colored kids have no attractions if the Aldermen have to pay for them out of their own pockets. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

**HON. TOWNSEND HARRIS, AMERICAN  
MINISTER TO JAPAN.**

The recent advent among us of the princely Embassy from Japan has aroused an unusual degree of interest and attention on the part of the whole American people, and, indeed, of the world. The importance of this deputation, the first of its kind ever sent out from that veiled empire of nearly sixty millions of people, possessing a higher degree of culture and organization than prevails in any other of the Asiatic races, has very naturally led to this stirring result. Amid the enthusiasm and excitement incident upon the arrival of the Embassy, it has seemed almost to have escaped the attention of the citizens of New York, and indeed of the representatives of the Government who have more immediate charge of, and relations with the Embassy, that to a New York boy, afterwards an active and intelligent merchant among us, now known as the ablest and most successful of American dip-

lomatists on foreign service, the Hon. Townsend Harris, American Minister at the Court of Yeddo, is due the merit of having, by his perseverance, superior address and manly and honorable policy, secured the ratification of the treaty just signed, as well as a special convention, the result of his far-seeing judgment, which bound the Government of the Tycoon to send its first Embassy to the Government of the United States at Washington, thus defeating the policy of Lord Elgin and the other representatives of the European Governments, and securing immense *éclat* and substantial immediate and prospective advantages to this country. The time has come for this seeming forgetfulness of a brilliantly gifted, faithful and indifferently paid public servant to take the form of a criminal neglect, alike disgraceful to the Government and to the American people. It is now high time that the press of his native State, and especially, of the city which he has done so much to honor and to benefit as a merchant, an educator, a statesman, a diplomatist and a good citizen, should assert the supremacy of right and justice, and, if need be, compel even a tardy return to public consciousness of the great benefits conferred by our Minister to Japan. Mr. Harris was presented with a magnificent gold box by her majesty Queen Victoria, in token of her appreciation of the valuable aid and co-operation afforded Lord Elgin in negotiating the treaty between Great Britain and Japan.

Mr. Harris was born at Sandy Hall, Washington county, New York, where he received the rudiments of education in the common school, his parents being in moderate circumstances but unusually intelligent. At the age of fifteen he left his native village, and came to the city of New York, to become a clerk in a



dry goods store with his elder brother, where he remained for a year, when he obtained a situation in a large china house. He remained in this until by his energy, integrity and abundant capacity he became a partner in, and afterwards sole proprietor of the establishment, conducting a heavy business with honor and success for a quarter of a century, and surrounding himself with earnest friends from among the most celebrated and high-minded of the merchant princes of New York. The idea and establishment of the Free Academy of this city was entirely due to Townsend Harris. He early saw that, if the city was to participate in the literature fund controlled by the Board of Regents, it must have an institution of academic grade, and submitted his views first to his life-long and tried friend, General Prosper M. Wetmore, who was a member of the Board of Regents. This gentleman sought to dissuade him from the attempt, but in vain; Mr. Harris had fixed upon what he deemed to be the proper line of policy, and immediately commenced a series of labors that would have disheartened a less determined and conscientiously convinced man; and the result, upon an appeal to his fellow-citizens by ballot, was the successful endorsement of his ideas, and the permanent establishment of the Free Academy, designed by *him* to afford the advantages of a superior theoretical and *practical* education to the sons of all classes and conditions of the people of the city of New York, upon the single condition of a previous attendance for a year upon one of the ward schools.

Mr. Harris held the position of President of the Board of Education during the years 1846-'47, but resigned upon the conclusion of his successful establishment of the Free Academy.

In 1849. soon after the announcement of the discovery of

gold in California, Mr. Harris wound up his business, consolidated his means, paid all his indebtedness, and, without consulting with his friends, purchased a barque, loaded her with an assorted cargo, and set sail, unheralded, for the land of gold and brilliant hopes. On his arrival at San Francisco, he disposed of his cargo, realizing a profit of over twenty thousand dollars. He soon afterwards took command of his own vessel, and sailed for the Straits of Malacca and the Indian Archipelago. This enterprise proved unfortunate, and he was finally obliged to sell his ship, and was, for nearly two years, lost to his friends, who supposed him dead. At the end of this period a letter from him reached General Wetmore, informing him that he had made the tour of the Eastern Pacific countries and the islands adjacent to the Continent of Asia, and that he had, finally, planted himself at Hong Kong. Through the friendship of Governor Marcy, then Secretary of State, he was appointed Consul to the Port of Ningpo, at a salary of a thousand dollars per annum. Upon receiving his appointment, he immediately appointed a Vice-Consul, and started to return to the United States. On his way he met Sir John Bowring, the British Envoy, who had just negotiated a commercial treaty with the Empire of Siam. His extensive information and remarkable powers of observation immediately led to a warm friendship with the Envoy, and he soon obtained a copy of the British treaty, which afterwards proved of very great service as a guide to our Government in preparing its instructions in regard to our present treaty with Siam. On his arrival at Bangkok, he made himself familiar with the capital, the Government and the people of Siam, after which he visited several of the principal cities of British India on a secret, romantic mis-

sion, supposed by him, to be in the interests of the *London Times*. He then returned by the way of London, where he received letters urging his immediate return to the United States, at the instance of Mr. Marcy, who had recommended him to the President to fill the important post of Consul-General to Japan. On his arrival at home, he immediately called on the Secretary, who found him thoroughly posted in regard to the affairs of the East, and directed him to wait on President Pierce, who very soon decided to give the commission to Mr. Harris, to which soon after was added that of Special Envoy to negotiate a commercial treaty with Siam. During his stay in New York his portrait was painted by Bogle, at the instance of H. L. Stuart, Esq., and now occupies a distinguished place at the right hand of De Witt Clinton, the first president of the Public School Society, in the hall of the Board of Education. From this portrait we have made our illustration, there being no other of Mr. Harris in the country.

Mr. Harris left New York in October, 1855, and reached Bangkok in the following March, when he succeeded in negotiating a most favorable commercial treaty, from which more than half a million of dollars have been saved to our citizens in tonnage dues alone up to the commencement of the present year. He then proceeded on his way, arrived at Japan in August, 1856, and entered upon his official duties under the preliminary treaty negotiated by Commodore Perry in 1854. During all this time Mr. Harris acted as a volunteer, as his pay was not to commence until he reached Japan. Three attempts have been made in Congress to remunerate him for his valuable services during this period, and a bill appropriating ten thousand dollars has this

session passed the Senate unanimously, and only awaits the action of the House of Representatives at this moment, for ever to blot out this burning and disgraceful fact. The present is a most fortunate time for the President and the Government to do gracefully a tardy act of justice, and we hope that the Princes of Japan will carry back to Yeddo the first information of such action.

On Mr. Harris's career in Japan it is not necessary to enlarge, as all the facts are before the public, and the appearance in our streets of the subjects of the Tycoon is a living commentary on his success.

Mr. Harris has been advanced to the rank of resident Minister and to full pay. His labors have been herculean, and his health is seriously affected. The late rumor of his death is untrue. We have seen a letter from his physician of a date two weeks later than the departure of Captain Tatnall and the Embassy from Yeddo, which says that Mr. Harris is nearly restored to health. A movement is in progress among the friends of the Minister to send him some appropriate token of their appreciation and regard, and many of them will call *en masse* as his friends and pay their respects to the Embassy before it leaves the country.

Mr. Harris is the first foreigner who ever had the honor of a personal interview with the Monarch of Japan. There is but one charge against him, and that holds equally good against President Buchanan. He is a bachelor, and this is the only reason why we cannot most cordially recommend him to the Baltimore Convention as a candidate for Presidential honors—a position that

the American people will be more than likely, should he live, to confer upon him.

Mr. Harris speaks the principal European languages with fluency, and is also familiar with several of the Eastern dialects. He is able to converse in Japanese without the aid of an interpreter, and has long been in the habit of journalising from day to day his observations, and reflections upon them. This course has placed him in possession of a vast and varied amount of available information upon almost every topic of human interest. His conversational powers are of the highest order, and his judgment of men and things is quick, comprehensive and accurate. He is the soul of manliness and honor.

Mr. Harris is now about fifty-five years old, and in the prime of his fine intellectual powers. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

## AMERICAN WATCHES.

**PRESENTED BY THE AMERICAN WATCH COMPANY,  
OF WALTHAM, MASS., TO THE EMPEROR OF  
JAPAN AND HIS CHIEF AMBASSADOR.**

One of the most tasteful, rich and appropriate presents made to the Japanese Embassy was quietly made on Wednesday last, by the American Watch Company, through Captain Dupont, the head of the Naval Commission.

This present consisted of two superb gold hunting watches, one for His Majesty the Tycoon of Japan, and the other for the Chief Ambassador. These watches were prepared with a view to giving the Japanese an idea of the skill of our countrymen in

the delicate art of watchmaking, and are admirable in design and finish.

The one designed for the Tycoon bears a finely engraved likeness of President Buchanan on the lid over the dial, and a spread eagle carved in a solid block of gold on the other lid. The dial is finished with the ordinary arrangement for seconds, with Arabic numerals on the outer hour and minute circle, and the corresponding Japanese characters representing the day divided into six hours of one hundred and twenty minutes each, with a red sign to indicate the half hours on an inner circle.

The second watch bears an engraving of the Capitol at Washington and other appropriate emblems, including the crossed standards of the two countries on one side, and on the other a noble steamship finely engraved, forming an appropriate emblem of the newly-awakened spirit of amity existing between the United States and Japan. The dial of this watch is finished with the Japanese numerals around the outer circle, and corresponding Roman numerals, smaller, in an inner circle. Both dials are models of elegant workmanship, and will compare favorably with anything of the kind ever made. The arrangement of the characters was made by the chief interpreter, at the request of Captain Dupont, through the aid of Mr. Portman, at the instance of Mr. H. L. Stuart, the able representative of the company, while the Embassy was in Washington. The movements are of the new series of thin watches lately issued by the Compay, and are of extreme beauty and delicacy of finish.

These admirable timekeepers cost the company about three hundred dollars each, and are equal to any watches in the world.

The chief member of the Embassy and his princely associ-

ates manifested much gratification at the receipt of this delicate compliment, and made numerous inquiries in relation to watch-making in this country. A deputation, with their interpreter, will visit the establishment of Messrs. Robbins and Appleton, the agents of the Company, 182 Broadway, during the present week, to obtain a list of prices and other information, to be incorporated in the report of the Embassy to be made to the Japanese Government on their return. We see no reason why Swiss watches, even when bearing another name, should be palmed off, as they have been, upon the subordinates of the Embassy as real products of American skill.

Both of these watches were made by a system of original American machinery in the only establishment of the kind in the world, and are constructed entirely of American materials by American artisans.

Presents of this character, while they demonstrate the manufacturing capacities of our country, will inevitably attract the trade which it is the great object of the United States, by the treaty, to open, stimulate and establish between the two countries. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 30, 1860.)

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## AN ODE TO THE JAPANESE.

BY THE BARD THAT SANG OF HEENAN.

Oh, Japanese,

You're welcome to this shore !

We greet you as we greet the Orient breeze

Whose rustling robes have swept the perfumed seas ;

You come as welcome as the earliest peas —

Can soul of man say more ?

Illustrious Pagans from the Nippon isle,

Come to our arms—we'll while away a while

In pleasant talk and chat ;

Tell us in sweet communion what you think

Of all you've seen, and with a latent wink

Tell us, *sub rosa*, what you'll take to drink—

Sweet Pagans, tell us that !

And we'll pay half the charges of a hack

To take you to the Central Park and back,

In short, we'll put you through ;

We'll trot you out, we'll take you to the Tombs,

The City Hall, the Common Council rooms,

And the Volks Garten, too.

Will have a grand procession down Broadway,

Stop in the Park to see the engines play,



And zealous little boys  
Shall black your boots—they'll charge you each  
three cents,  
But as you're guests, to share in the expense  
Will swell Fernando's joys.

And Barnum then shall show his stock in trade,  
Display to you the mermaid that you made—  
You'll like his honest phiz.  
And then perhaps he'll take you to the cage  
Which holds "the living wonder of the age,"  
And tell you WHAT IT IS!

But have a care of Barnum's promptness, since  
'Tis like he'll hire a KAMI or a PRINCE  
To stand upon all fours.  
And advertise next day, "Admission cheap  
To an amphibious monster of the deep  
That comes from Nippon's shores!"

And have a care lest Peter Funk may sell  
A pinchbeck watch to some Celestial swell,  
To some Man-darin man;  
And watch lest ticket-swindlers come anon,  
and sell to every Pagan mother's son  
A ticket to Japan!

Should this be done, oh! do not cross the sea  
In bitter wrath and poison our Bohea;

But promise, Japanese,  
That though our Common Council bore your ears,  
That though we dot your heathen eyes with tears,  
You will not cross our teas !

New York Times.

(*The New York Illustrated News*, May 26, 1816.)

### JOTTINGS ABOUT THE JAPANESE.

*To Major Jack Downing, P. M. Downingville, State ov  
Maine, in care of Mister Harper, who'll send it in print.*

WASHINGTON, May 15. 1860.

HONNURD UNCLE,—Here I be agin, large as life, and  
twice as nat'ral, and hope these few lines 'll find yeou enjoyin'  
the same blessin'. The fact on't is, that we got so orphully  
squabbled up deown tew Charlestun that Gin'ral Cushing and I  
didn't now what on airth tew dew. One mornin' the Gin'ral  
come aboard the scunur, and ses he,

“ Corporol ! ”

“ Gin'ral ! ” ses I, jumpin' rite inter my close.

Ses he, “ Cum aboard the Bosting stemur, and les talk along  
with Butlur.”

And I went. But tha'd got the train agoin', and part wos  
on wun track, and part wos switch'd orf, and wot tew dew they  
didn't kno. All at wunse ses I,

“ Deown tew Downingville, when Sargent Joel gits the  
cumpenny eout, and trys the revolushuns ov the line, an' they  
gits awl mixed up, wot d'ye s'pose he dus ? ”

“ Wot ? ” ses they.

“ Why,” ses I, “ *he brakes ranks till next Saturdy arternoon!* ”

They tuk the hint, ajurn'd their Cunvenshuns, and we're  
awl aflote again.

Menewhile they sed I must go tew Washuntun ; and gittin' a chanse tew hire eout the schunur for fratin' rice op a little rivur, I cum strate hear, jist as indurpendunt as tho' we 'd made a nommernaahun, in spite ov Slydell and t'uther phellers that's so masturly agin Douglass.

Mr. Buckcannon was mighty glad tew see me, I tell yeou. Ses he,

"I've red in Mr. Harper's paper heow yeou told your folks in Main heow their atryin' tew poke sharp sticks inter me in that Committy, set on by Forney and the very phellers that maid all this corrupshon."

Ses I, "The Downings is as trew as steal, and Dimmocrats ov the cleanest grit."

Ses he, "I know'd it. And I've got an offis for yeou that'll keep yeou abeout hear a spell, tew help us along."

Ses I, "What offis?"

Ses he, "Master ov Cerymonys tew the Jappyknees."

"Jappyknees!" ses I. "Cerymonys! Wot is it? Mattrymony?"

"No, no," ses the President, a larfin' like fun. "That cerymony won't be purform'd here jist neow, witheout Miss Lane takes it inter her hed tew leve me; but this is anuther matter. These Jappyknees, Corporol Downing, be a strange set ov phellers, that live over by Chiny, and we've made 'em open their doors—"

"Now I knose," ses I. "Didn't Squire Fessenden send Uncle Major Jack three big books from that Pub. Doc. 'stablishment by male? And didn't I make a lectur abeout it for the

Downingville Mutual Admirashun and Improvement Society about it?

"You're jist the man for the rite plase," ses Mr. Buckcannon. And he give me a letter tew the Commisshunners, and told me tew go aboard the stemur the next day. And I went, punctual as Aunt Nabby Greenlefe's dinnur-horn.

The Commisshuners was awl navy offisurs. Thair was Captin Dupont, brother of the Dupont powder-mill in Delawhair, and Captin Lee—both ov 'em havin' bin tew Jappan; and Captin Porter, who'd been to the ismus with a stemur a good menny times. Then thair was Mr. Ledyard, who marry'd Gin'ral Cass's datur, and represented the old gentleman; and Doctur M'Donald, who's Secreterry tew the Commisshun; and sum undurstrappers from the Navy Departmunt; and the Mareens Band, in red flannel cotes, a playin' like phun. Consarn their tootin', they'd varyate Yankee Doodle sew that it sounded like an opery.

Wa'al, deown the Potomoc we went, eatin' ice-creme, and enjoyin' life—Congress havin' apropreyated fifty thousand dollars, and more ov the same sort acomin'. There was a masterly storm; but presendly the Jappyknees come along, and we went aboard their stemur twe see them.

Don't I wish yeou'd a bin their, Uncle Jack; and if yeou had, yeou'd have larfed fit tew split. Their was we, awl in unerform, grate big men; and their was they, little, peaked, slim chaps, dressed e'enermost like wimmen folks, but as bright and chippur as a school-marm on examanashun mornin'. They torked mighty glib, but we didn't no wot they sed no more than if the'd a bin so menny blackbirds. They maid eout not tew no

wot we sed, but if they deon't my name ain't Downing. Jappyknees ain't no fules, I tell yeou.

'Twas Sabbath-day, but the Jappyknees ain't converted yit, sew we went ashoar and saw the forty-ficashuns, and they fired the grate guns, and made a reg'lar gen'ral trainin' ov it. Then we awl went up river agin tew Washington.

The hed men kept sort ov dignyphied ; and I found eout, by a Dutcher gentleman along who'd bin eout thair, that their was tew on 'em, and that in Jappan theirs tew of every thing, jest as we used tew be Dimocrats or Whigs. Their's tew Emperors, and so we've got tew Embassadors, and each feller's got a duplercate, clear deown tew the bute blacks.

Yesterday morning we was a stemin' up the Potomac, flags a flyin', drums a betin', and the Jappyknees a greasin' up there hare inter little kues on top ov their heds, a pintin' forred. There close was wimmin fashun e'venamost, with grate trowsurs, and big sleeves, from under wich there bear arms show'd. Each man had a littl white mark soed on his blue dressin'-gown, and sum had sords stuck in there belts.

Wa'al, as we drewed near tew the navy yard it looked like a bee-hive, chock full of people, awl dressed up. Flags' was a flyin', sogers was a marchin' abeout, offisers was a struttin' reound like ravin' deestracted roosturs, and 'twas a reg'lar fourth ov July. The Jappyknees was delited, and wun ov them sed tew me, ses he, "Very good ; much pigeon." What on airth he ment I dun no.

While we was a waitin' I spyd wun ov Mr. Harper's artists a skethcin' away like phun, makin' a pictur ov the yard, and ov the peeple, and ov the white-washed plank-walk for the Jappy-

knees to cum ashoar on, and the sogers, and the steme-boat we wos on, Jappyknees and awl, includin' me. But awl at wunst he seed sumthin' on the bote, and stop'd drawin', and begun to larf like phun. I looked tew see what on airth he was a larfin' at, and thair was a Jappyknee oppositioner a sketchin' away like phun tew. I deon't wundur Mr. Harper's artist was kinder knocked aback tew see this feller, and I would like tew see the tew picturs, side by side, jist tew see which feller was best.

At last awl was reddy, and the crowd went ashoar, the big guns what wos took from the Britishers in the last war blazin' away like fun, and the music a playin' their forrin variated Hale Columby, and the peeple a cheerin', and the Jappyknees a lookin' areound-dredful tickled, It bete Gin'ral Jacksun a cumin' tew Bosting, when yeou wos with him, awl tew peaces, as yeou will see by a lookin' at Mr. Harper's pictur. That air pictur will save me a deal ov explanashun, for thair it awl is, as large as life and twice as nat'ral.

Then we got inter kerryges, and escorted by the millingterry, went rite deown past the Cappertol tew Willard's Hotel, the peeple a cheerin' like phun. It wos a grate site, and I dun no which was the gratest site in wun kerryge, three Jappyknees, a fannin' and a grinnin', or me, Corporal Benjamin Downing, 3d. And judgin' from the looks of the Commisshuners in the t'other kerryges, they wos pretty well sattisphyed with their looks tew.

Willard's wun ov'em—and a regulur Vermounter at that—who knows heow tew keep a tavern, he does. He had a Jappyknee flag a flyin', and a long entry, with rooms on each side, all fixed up in the nicest sort ov fashun. Sich sofys, and esy-chares, and carpets, and shandeleers, nevur wos scene.

No soonur was we thair than a Jappyknee rushed reound and then lotted off the rooms, ritin' the name of each man on a peece of paper, and stickin' it on ev'ry dore, jist like a sine ; and when they was located they went tew fixin' up and maken their twilites, and gittin' ev'ry thing in order. Then they begun tew peek areound ; and if there's enny thing in Willard's tavern they deon't see, I'd like tew know what 'tis, either " up stares, deown stares, or in the Jappyknees' chamber." Their eyes is open, I tell yeou, and what they sees they makes a note on't, as Capting Kuttel used tew sa.

Arter a while we awl went in tew dinner—that is, the hed men ov the Jappyknees and awl ov us offisers. The outlanders used there knives and forks right glib. Mete they wudn't tuch, but they et chicking and fish, toppin' off with ise-creme and sugur-plums, and taking as much Champane as they daird tew, fur each party was a watchin' tuther, and they konstituted a temprance band of self-watchin' bruthers. Wot they didn't drink we did, fur thair's fifty thousand dollors tew be spent, and we mene tew spend it.

Wa'al, dinner was ovur, and the embassordors went back inter there parlur, whair the ladies and gentlemun went in tew see them. Mr. Harper's artist was a sketchin' them, and so you'll see it jist as plane as if yeou'd bin thair.

The phun was amung the secund-class Jappyknees, who wur in there rums a smokin' little pipes that are eout in know time, and a drinkin' strong tea eout of varnyshed pasteboard cups, and a jabberin' awfully. Then there artists was a drawin' every thing. If the 'lusterated papers there ain't well supply'd with picturs, t'wunt be the fault of the artists, I tell yeou.

Wa'al, all this time I been a edgin' areound, and a tryin' tew find eout wot these Jappyknees want, wot they mene tew deow, and how long they mene tew stay. But mum's the wurd. Even Mistur Portman, who was eout thair a inturpretin' for Commodor Perry, deon't kno a word. A Thursday, tho', they're a goin' tew see Mr. Buckcannon, and we're a goin' tew have a grate time, I tell yeou. Gin'ral Scott's a goin' tew be their, and awl sorts of officers, egle buttuns, and ankur buttuns, and perlite old vetruns, and stuck-up new officurs and the Mareen Band, and awl ov us.

Which I mene tew rite about in my next. Menewhile, why not invite the Jappyknees tew Downingville? Why not? The Selectmen could enturtane awl there frends and naburs—the Downingville Independent Cadets could paraid, and hav thair music bills pade—the tavern would du a smashin' business—and if it did bare hard on the tax-payers, who cairs? We may git up a grate trade with Jappan, takin' thair varnish, and sendin' back dried apples, ax-handles, squash-seed, and other luxurys. Menewhile, say tew Sarah Hale that they ain't no femail Jappyknees, and that wun of them has given me the purtyest fan fur her that ever she seed. Recommendin' yeou tu look at Mr. Harper's picturs, I am yours till deth.

BENJAMIN DOWNING, 3rd.

(*Harper's Weekly*, May 26, 1860.)

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## PART IV

### EXCERPTS FROM LATER PUBLICATIONS

#### I

### THE GREAT JAPANESE EMBASSY OF 1860. A FORGOTTEN CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL AMITY AND COMMERCE BY MR. PATTERSON DU BOSI.

(Read April 21, 1910)

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The American trade with Japan, the traveller or sojourner in Japan, and the national representative or envoy to Japan, all find their transactions with Japanese greatly facilitated by certain American ideas, patterns and methods now firmly rooted in Japanese practice.

First and foremost, the money system corresponds closely to that of the United States and the coinage itself is convenient, exact and trustworthy. In close accord with this, the American feels himself comparatively at home with the banking, postal and telegraph facilities, in public school aspects, and finally, he takes comfort in the assurance of an up-to-date dentistry and surgery.

But the international American little realizes how all these essentials of modern western life came to be imported from his own country and adopted by the keen-eyed Japanese as indispensable models for the Meiji or "enlightened rule."

The historic fact has dropped into almost total oblivion. This practical Americanizing of Japan harks back to the well-nigh forgotten visit of the great Japanese Embassy to the United States in 1860.

After the first assurance of friendly relations or amity, the rock-bottom of a stable, thriving and reciprocal commerce between two nations is to be found—as already indicated—in a scientifically

exact and trustworthy coinage and system of exchange. Of this, more later. But first, as to the historical setting of one of the most picturesque and potent of all international events.

Americans delight to shout themselves hoarse in the praise of Perry. We rightly glorify the tactful, gallant and picturesque manner in which he punctured the screen which shut out the western world from the eye of the Rising Sun. We have a sufficient feeling that he took the initiative in securing friendly, to be followed by trade, relations in advance of all other nations—whatever slippery foothold the Portuguese, English and Dutch had at one time or another acquired only to lose again. We are sure enough that Japan's introduction to the circle of commercial nations was an American performance and that Perry took the initiative hand in it.

And there we stop. We know that American training goes back to Japan in the person of many a university graduate and we know of other influences military, naval, industrial, commercial, educational, professional, ethical, religious, which Japan has sought and obtained from both Europe and America. But we do not seem to realize that to certain impressions made upon the barbaric and wondering embassy of 1860 may be traced definite and continuous lines of development through the vitalizing of more or less latent Japanese powers and ideals. The work which Perry began in 1853-54 was only completed in the visit of the embassy of 1860 to this country. Indeed the embassy is the one signal factor in making the Perry incident permanently effective. Nor was it completed in the signing of the treaty in Washington, whatever might be officially held to the country. It is safe to say that the Japanese *learned more which has proved*

*germinal in their re-making*, from their visit to the United States—but especially to Philadelphia, immediately following the diplomatic formalities in Washington, in 1860, than from any other one American source since Perry anchored in the Bay of Yeddo. Indeed I propose here to show such a historical continuity and persistence of certain formative elements of modern progress now accepted as the fixed order of no other visible historical source than the embassy of 1860. And this, notwithstanding the complete revolution in the government and policy of Japan eight years later.

And yet, as I said at the outset, this embassy seems to have passed almost into oblivion. The President of the American Asiatic Association in an article (1907, *The Outlook*) speaks of it as “one of several missions which about that time were sent by the Shogunate to other countries.” In a general sense this is true, but more strictly the truth is that in Townsend Harris’s negotiation of the commercial treaty in 1858 the Americans insisted that the first embassy to go out from Japan to any country should visit the United States first of all.

An English authority, Mr. J. Morris, in his able book, “Makers of Japan,”—to which I make acknowledgment—admits that “Modern Japan dates from the advent..... of the American squadron under Commodore Perry in 1853;” and that the Perry compact was “the time edge of the wedge.” And yet he gives no indication of any knowledge of the embassy of 1860 for in noting the mission of the Marquis Ito abroad in 1871, he says that his was not the first embassy, “for a mission of two feudal barons had been sent to Europe in the early ‘sixties.”

Even admitting that this embassy was one “of courtesy”

merely, as Dr. Griffiths and others say, we shall see that something more vitalizing and lasting than courtesy grew out of it.

That the embassy of 1860 should have dropped so completely out of sight as an international event will doubtless lead many to conclude that at best it was but a spectacular fizzle entirely wanting in constructive elements or continuing efforts. Others will remind us that from the invasion of Perry up to and after the first foreign embassy all intercourse was through the Shogun or "Tycoon" whose rule was becoming rapidly challenged and his authority in a large part of Japan denied. But the embassy was neither a mere courtesy, a spectacular fizzle nor was it of temporary import. Nor does the subsequent overthrow of the Shogun *in any degree vitiate the contention that the specific visible lines of Japanese progress emerge from the personal presence of the "princes" and their retinue in the United States in 1860.*

On the part of Japan all international adjustments at this period were made by authority of the Shogun—better known at that time in the West as the "Tycoon." And who was the Shogun, or what was the Shogunate?

He was a military commander-in-chief, who had won arbitrary power—or held it—as the strongest of the feudal barons. He was *de facto* ruler of Japan, his government being centered at Yeddo (Now Tokio). The ruler *de jure* was the Mikado whose position was that of a sort of deified headship and an inert nominality.

The Shogunate began with the house of Tokugawa in 1603. It ended by the voluntary resignation of Prince Tokugawa Keiki in 1868 in the interest of national preservation and progress.

For nearly two and half centuries the Shogunate was the personification of a military supremacy in one of the most complete and exacting feudal systems known to history.

It was the Shogun Iyesada who become the treaty maker of 1854. It was Ten-shi, or Mikado, the ruler *de jure*, Komei, who, under pressure from the Shogun's opposers, rallied his nerves to the extent of refusing to ratify these treaties even though he ultimately gave way. But he had a large official and popular backing. In fact the double-headed rulership had become a source of strife which threatened to disrupt the country. The opening of the door to the foreigner and the introduction of foreign methods were fast becoming the national dispute.

In spite of the expulsion of all foreigners, except a few severely restricted Hollanders, and the massacre of Christians in the seventeenth century, in spite of a universal espionage and lips sealed to foreigners, in spite of barbaric military standards and codes of honor—spears and swords outranking firearms—the scent of western enlightenment gradually penetrating the air quickened a new consciousness of unrealized power. Feudal rule had for some years given rise to murmurs and calls were heard for a full restoration of the Ten-shi, or Mikado, to real power. So Iyesada's treaties were made a plausible ground of opposition to the Shogunate even by the progressive clans who had introduced a number of foreign inventions. For the *purpose of getting rid of the Shogunate* the slogan of these very progressionists was *the expulsion of the alien*.

The Shogun adhered to his policy of admitting the alien (first forced by Perry) but as soon as the progressive clans succeeded in overthrowing the Shogun's supporters they at once

advocated the policy of opening the country to strangers, also. It is important to note this as it goes to show that although the embassy of 1860 was sent out by the boy Shogun, Iyemochi, yet the American impress which it carried back was in accord with that progression which ultimately triumphed even though the Shogunate was abolished.

Perry landed his men at the little village of Uraga in the Bay of Yeddo in July, 1853. For two hundred and thirty years no stranger had entered the feudal empire of the Rising Sun. Perry delivered, through messenger, President Fillmore's letter and sent word to the Shogun Iyeyoshi that he would return the next year for an answer. When Perry returned in February, 1854, Iyeyoshi was dead and Iyesada reigned in his stead, and the treaty of amity was signed, March 31, 1854, opening two ports to us, Shimoda and Hakodadi, for trade and all ports for ships in distress. As a matter of fact Shimoda was not opened but Kanagawa was selected as the first port to be open to trade.

In 1858 the Shogun Iyesada died and was succeeded by a fifteen-year-old boy Shogun, Iyemochi, and his regent prince; and it was under this rule that the embassy of 1860 was sent to the United States. This period suffered from internecine strife on questions of alien influence, feudalism and dynastic ambition. Moreover, the Mikado was being pressed by certain feudal lords to close the ports, abrogate the treaties and expel the strangers. But the foreign powers were also pressing the regent to stand by the agreements. Then, just after he had sent out the embassy, the regent was assassinated. This was in March, 1860. The country was in a ferment but the great embassy was on its way across the Pacific.

The thin edge of the wedge inserted by the Perry compact in 1854 was chiefly one of amity and of hospitality to our seamen. Nevertheless it was to pave the way for closer commercial relations, through another treaty.

This latter treaty was negotiated by our Consul-general Townsend Harris, July 29, 1858.

Mr. Harris had raised the United States flag over an ancient Buddhist temple at Shimoda September 4, 1856, and established our legation there, being "the first of the diplomatic representatives of foreign powers," as Morris concedes, "to dwell in the newly awakened Land of Sunrise and the first to arrange a treaty of commerce." Harris had a hard time of it. President Pierce sent him out in 1855. He remained in seclusion for nearly two years at Shimoda—the tip end of the southeastern coast—before he could get an audience with the Shogun. Until he could do it in person he refused to deliver the President's letter. For about eighteen months he was without news from home—receiving neither letter nor newspaper. He entered Yeddo in November 1857, gained his long insisted-upon audience December 7, 1857, spent some months in parley and finally signed the treaty of commerce July 29, 1858. This treaty became the model for others between Japan and European nations. It is interesting, too, that when the British Earl of Elgin arrived for a similar purpose, Harris "lent" his secretary, Mr. Hewsken, to act as interpreter for the British envoys. Lord Elgin negotiated a treaty similar to Harris's and it was signed August 26, 1858. Thus the first British treaty was signed about six months after Perry's and the second one was signed one month after Harris's.

Now the agreement with Harris was that his treaty should

be ratified in Washington. Under our treaties, however, no Japanese envoy was to go out until after America had been officially visited. After deferring the dreaded event as long as possible the Japanese finally applied to the United States for a man-of-war to transport the envoys.

It was on March 27, 1860, that the United States man-of-war *Powhatan* arrived at San Francisco, carrying the ambassadors and their immense retinue. After a few days of dining and sight-seeing the visitors reembarked for Washington by way of the isthmus—this being nine years before our east and west coasts were united by rail.

The United States man-of-war *Roanoke* awaited the orientals at Aspinwall (now Colon), a flourishing seaport and the Atlantic-side terminus of the forty-nine-mile railway connecting it with Panama, the entrepot of the Pacific side. Aspinwall was on the *qui vive*. In anticipation the United States flag officer courteously invited the British Rear-Admiral Sir Alexander Milne to come on board the *Roanoke* when the embassy should arrive. The invitation was declined, the rear-admiral subsequently remarking (so reported) that it was “a great farce, foolish and nonsensical.” Nor would he raise his flag, though every other vessel did. His attitude gave the Japanese an unfavorable impression of the English nation—so reported later by one of the retinue.

Under command of Captain S. F. Dupont the ship *Philadelphia* left Washington, May 11, for Hampton Roads where the embassy was to be officially received. On May 12, at 9. 30 p. m., the *Roanoke* arrived in the roadstead. She was boarded by Capt. Dupont ; Capt. Taylor of the Marine Corps ; Mr. Ledyard, son-in-law of the Secretary of State ; Mr. Portman, the Dutch inter-



preter ; Commander Lee (brother of Robert E. Lee and father of the late Fitzhugh Lee); Lieut. David D. Porter (later, commanded the expedition against Fort Fisher, later, Admiral); Mr. McDonald, invited guests, and reporters. After the formalities of presentation in the cabin of the *Roanoke* the treaty itself was exposed to view. Up to the present time it had been kept wrapped in a case of red cloth and sacredly secured in a superb lacquered chest about three feet long, eighteen inches wide, and twenty-six inches deep, never out of sight of a guard, and transported by poles resting on the shoulders of four men.

Two days later, May 14, the transfer of the entire company, box, bag and baggage, from the *Roanoke* to the *Philadelphia* was completed. The envoys and retinue of all grades numbered no less than seventy-six persons—the upper ranks gorgeously arrayed and plentifully begirt with swords. The luggage filled four cars on the Panama railroad. There were fifteen boxes of presents for President Buchanan and others. There was a beautiful "Sharpe's rifle" made by the Japanese as an improvement on the real American Sharpe presented to the Japanese by Commodore Perry six years earlier. The Japanese improvement consisted in an arrangement for cocking, priming and cutting off the cartridge, all at once. This has gone by now, but it was a forecast of Japanese aptitudes which we have seen illustrated in the late war. The money which the orientals brought bulked immensely, too, for it consisted of Mexican silver and United States half-dollars.

Under command of Dupont the *Philadelphia* proceeded at once to Old Point Comfort, where for the first time Fort Monroe submitted to an almond-eyed inspection. There were no snapshot cameras in those days, but the foresighted orientals had

brought with them alert and skilled artists who immediately busied themselves making sketches of our boasted stronghold. And indeed these deft wielder of the brush were thus busy throughout the entire sojourn of the embassy among us. Who shall say that the many cartoons of things American which were thus officially carried back to Japan are not to be counted among the germs of a later expansion? Who knows but that these pictures helped to leaven the motif, eight years later, of the Emperor's edict at his crowning—"The bad customs of past ages shall be abolished and our government shall tread in the paths of civilization and enlightenment. We shall endeavor to raise the prestige and honor of our country *by seeking knowledge throughout the world.*"

On the same day, May 14, the embassy was received at the Washington Navy Yard by the commandant, Capt. Franklin Buchanan—the man who, less than two years later, commanded the *Merrimac* in her destructive work, in which she was finally vanquished by the little *Monitor*.

The landing of the embassy at the Washington Navy Yard was a brilliant and imposing spectacle. From the navy yard the orientals were driven under military and civic escort to Willard's Hotel—then the center of Washington's social gravitation. It is not necessary to the argument to enlarge upon diplomatic details. Suffice it to note that the ambassadors and attaches, eight in all, on May 16, were driven to the Department of State, where letters were presented to Secretary Cass in Japanese, Dutch and English. All communication was done through two interpreters—Nomura-Gohajiro, the Japanese who spoke Dutch, and Mr. Portman, the Hollander who spoke English.

The next day, May 17, the ambassadors presented the Tycoon's greeting to the President, of which the following was the published translation :

*To His Majesty, the President of the United States of America.* I express with respect : Lately the Governor of Shimoda, Insooye-Sinano-no-Kami and the Metske-Iwasi-Hego-no-Kami (Prince of Idzu), both Imperial Commissioners, had negotiated and decided with Townsend Harris, the Minister Plenipotentiary of your country, an affair of amity and commerce, and concluded previously the treaty in the city of Yeddo. And now the ratification of the treaty is sent with the Commissioners of Foreign Affairs, Simme-Buzen-no-Kami, and Minagake-Awzi-no-Kami to exchange the mutual treaty. It proceeds from a particular importance of affairs and a perfectly amicable feeling. Henceforth the intercourse of friendship shall be held between both countries and benevolent feeling shall be cultivated more and more and never altered. Because the now deputed three subjects are those whom I have chosen and confided in for the present post, I desire you to grant them your consideration, charity and respect. Herewith I desire you to spread my sincere wish for friendly relations and I have the honor to congratulate you on the security and welfare of your country."

(It would be easy to improve the English of this translation, but I give it as it was rendered at the time.)

The third envoy, unnamed in this letter, was Oguri-Bungo-no-Kami, and was known as the censor (or spy); following in order were the treasury officer who had full authority over the finances of the embassy, the governor (or executive manager), aids, interpreters, doctors, guards of the treaty box, and servants including "spies"—in all, seventy-six. The three "princes" who head the list as ambassadors were of equal rank with those who negotiated the treaties with Perry and Harris. They were not hereditary princes of the blood but Samurai members of the Tycoon's foreign council.

It will be remembered that when Harris signed the treaty of

commerce in 1858 it was stipulated that the ratifications should be interchanged in Washington. The formalities of the ratification of Harris's treaty were now in order. That this was a matter of moment to both nations and regarded as more than a picturesque affairs of good feeling will become apparent. This is what President Buchanan said about it in his annual message to Congress seven months later (1860):

The ratifications of the treaty with Japan concluded at Yeddo on the 29th July, 1858, were exchanged at Washington on the 22nd May last and the treaty itself was proclaimed on the succeeding day. There is good reason to expect that under its protection and influence our trade and intercourse with that interesting people will rapidly increase.

The ratifications of the treaty were exchanged with unusual solemnity. For this purpose the Tycoon had accredited three of his most distinguished subjects as envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary who were received and treated with marked distinction and kindness both by the government and people of the United States. There is every reason to believe that they have returned to their native land entirely satisfied with their visit and inspired by the most friendly feelings for our country. Let us ardently hope, in the language of the treaty itself, that "there shall henceforward be perpetual peace and friendship between the United States of America and His Majesty the Tycoon of Japan and his successors."

Three weeks of State formalities, sight-seeing and social functions—including the President's dinner on May 25, brought this first stage of the embassy to a close by a formal leave-taking in the blue room of the white house, June 5, at which a large gold medal was presented to each of the princes. But is this all? Is there enough in these three weeks of state and social function to generate definite lines of development and to vitalize latent powers and ideals such as we wonderingly view in these latter days? No. The embassy had one other official

commission which could be fulfilled only in Philadelphia. *It was in the matter of money and exchange.*

After a brief stop in Baltimore the orientals arrived Saturday, June 9, in Philadelphia. For weeks the city had been stirred to its depths planning and making arrangements for the unprecedented event. The industrial metropolis had much to show to a nation so skilled in artizanship as the Japanese. Best of all, here was a mint, which, after treaty formalities, was *the* chief focal point of the visit to the United States.

The train drawn by an engine wrapped in the Japanese and United States flags, arrived in the afternoon at the old "Baltimore Depot" at Broad and Prime Streets (now Washington Avenue). Here the envoys with Captain Dupont and Lieutenant Porter, were met by Mayor Henry, members of council, judges and other public men numbering about two hundred—and dense crowds of the populace. The long procession of nearly a hundred carriages filed up Broad Street under an imposing escort of about two thousand cavalry and infantry led by General Robert E. Patterson and staff, and greeted by the din of popular huzzahs. Thousands of eyes were strained to glimpse the novel type of physiognomy peering curiously out from the carriages. The Japanese artists were busily sketching as they rode our street. Extraordinary curiosity arose from the closely drawn shades of one of the carriages, which eventually gave rise to a rumor that the occupant was in disgrace because he had "stopped watching the treaty box"—its sacred import having been already heralded by the newspapers. The procession brought up at the Continental Hotel where the embassy was regally entertained. The police carried the treaty chest into the hotel and guarded it

under lock and key. During the week's sojourn in Philadelphia, crowds surrounded the hotel straining for a vision of the orientals as they appeared at their windows, but, said the reporters, the people "couldn't see a mite of difference between them and negroes!"

The Japanese were not unaware of the unique reputation of the Philadelphia Mint. All its early officers had been scientific-men or high mechanists and not politicians. Politics had but recently invaded the management but the assayer and his assistant in a peculiar sense had given the mint a world-wide reputation for specialized accuracy. Their published works and unvarying maintenance of the standard fineness of the coinage, for over a quarter-century of their incumbency, together with their comprehensive knowledge of the whole intricate operation of minting, had been a highly important although a popularly unapprehended factor in the national credit. For a nation, then, that had in itself the seeds of progress, a rising curiosity as to western methods, a tendency to catholicity, a receptivity to impressions, and an adaptive originality—as the Japanese had, notwithstanding a long isolation followed by internal strife—for a nation of this sort, America, and more particularly Philadelphia and especially the Mint, was the place to come.

On the morning of June 13 the envoys were received at the mint. In his address of greeting the director said that an international coinage was not likely to be realized, but he advised the foreigners to adopt the American Standard. A mutual knowledge of the currency of both nations would promote commerce as well as friendly relations.

Preliminary formalities being over the occasion was so ex-

traordinary that a messenger was quietly despatched with orders to go to a nearby grammar school and procure a release for the day of three pupils, sons of the assayer and his assistants, bring them to the laboratory where their education might take a rare turn in a leisurely and close contact with the ambassadors and their attendants. I was the youngest of those three boys, and I am now drawing on memory which is both stimulated and held in leash by certain mementoes, personal notes of the assistant assayer, various public prints and official documentary memoranda.

Entering the little "weigh room" attached to the laboratory the astonished youths saw the first and third ambassadors (the latter known as the censor), a stout functionary known as the governor, two interpreters—one Dutch and one Japanese—and perhaps one or two attachés, and a "prince" travelling unofficially for pleasure but in company with the embassy.

The high dignitaries were superbly dressed in silk brocaded, or inwoven, with gold, the pajamas or trousers being figured in exquisite patterns and as wide as skirts; the body-covering a loosely crossed waistcoat over which was kimono or long loose coat. The paper handkerchiefs were carried in the crosswrap of the waistcoat. The fore part of the head was shaved while down the center of the crown a tightly twisted lock or short braid lay glued stiff and tied with white cord. The sandals were held in place with white silk cords. The ambassadors wore three swords, the lesser officers two—a sign of the Samurai or ruling military caste and a badge of honor now abolished.

As the boys entered, one of the expert under-assayers was seated at the delicate balance explaining the process. This was

addressed to the Hollander, Mr. Portman, who in turn addressed the Japanese interpreter, Namura, in Dutch. Namura, in turn, translated the Dutch into Japanese and addressed the third ambassador who, in turn, communicated the information to the first ambassador—who received it with the utmost imperturbable and silent gravity. Whether he took it all in or not we boys could not tell.

The censor or third ambassador, Oguri, and the governor, Narousa, fat and spectacled with heavily rimmed glasses, were active investigators, Oguri produced a sort of steelyard of ivory with which he proceeded to test our weights against his one. The censor also brought forth an *abacus* or counting machine consisting of fifteen rows of wooden buttons sliding by five on parallel wires. Quite in accord with these crude and antiquated methods was the demand that the gold *cobang* (about as big as the palm of the hand) should be assayed not by a sample cut from it, but by consuming the entire piece. The chief assayer, Jacob R. Eckfeldt, and his assistant, William F. DuBois, were for the moment nonplussed by so extraordinary request. High accuracy demanded very small samples and their department was nothing if not scientifically precise. But the heathenish proposition was uncompromising and the whole *cobang* it must be. When, after two or three hours, the gold had been separated and weighed and its fineness thus ascertained the envoys were not satisfied. They must next know exactly of what the alloy was made up. Sure enough, we see in this very demand an indication of what we have seen since—thoroughness.

Three *cobangs* were thus tested and to satisfy the strangers, also a United States gold dollar. Notwithstanding the cumbrous



method of using an entire piece the results were exceedingly satisfactory—the *cobangs* running about 572 parts fine in 1,000. (It should be stated that while the embassy was yet in Washington a number of their coins were forwarded to Philadelphia to be tested in advance of the embassy's inspection. There were about twenty-five pieces in all, gold and silver *itsebus* and gold *cobang*. They ran with a fair approach to uniformity.) At intervals, during the long operations the orientals took a short squat on their heels to smoke their tiny pipes. A luncheon was served to them in the mint when the display of chop-stick skill—picking up one pea at a time at high speed with two sticks, for instance—was recreating to observant America.

After this the envoys requested the mint officers to meet them at the Continental Hotel and hold a conference on matters relative to a comparison of Japanese and American coinage and means of exchange. Accordingly, Director Snowden and his clerk Linderman; the assayer, Eckfeldt, and his assistant, DuBois; and the Melter and Refiner, Booth, repaired thither in the afternoon. Exactly what took place there we do not know. But the indications are that it was a "campaign of education" and that it was a spoke in the wheel of closer and fairer monetary relations, including the possibility of international coinage—in which movement Assayers Eckfeldt and DuBois were conspicuous. The next day the embassy was at the mint again and the work continued.

A carefully written account at the time said :

The very intricate business connected with the currency question between the United States and the Empire of Japan (the adjustment of which is one of the principal objects of the embassy) and which had been theoretically explained by

the officers of the Treasury Department at Washington has been *solved to the satisfaction of the envoys by the assays performed in their presence at the mint.* The importance and value of this very desirable result cannot be overestimated and the thanks of the country are due officers of that institution for the very skillful manner in which they have discharged the duties imposed upon them by the government at Washington in connection with the business.

The tests having been concluded on the second day the envoys were again formally addressed by the director, who presented to them a certified copy of the results and also a full set of the current United States coins handsomely cased. The censor replied, thanking the officers of the mint for their courteous attention, expressing satisfaction with the results, and promising to lay the whole matter before his government *so that a system of exchange could be arranged between the two countries.*

A slight digression may be permitted just here to illustrate the need for such adjustment of exchange if commerce was to be encouraged by the treaties. I quote from the private note book of my father, then the assistant assayer of the mint. It was written the next year—1861.

Before the Japanese Embassy started for this country a silver *itzebu* was coined, which was intrinsically one third of the Mexican dollar (The *itzebu* was the monetary unit of the empire.) About the same time, for Hakodadi only, a northern port where American trade chiefly centered, they coined a *half itzebu* (so stamped on its face) whose weight was equal to half a Mexican dollar (a little over in fact) and the alleged fineness the same. The object of this was to meet a treaty provision which made Mexican dollars interchangeable with silver *itzebus*, weight for weight. By this rule they would take from Americans a thousand dollars, and give in exchange two thousand of these new coins, being the equivalent in weight. But when the Americans came to buy goods with the coins they were informed that their current value was only a *half-itzebu*, according to the stamp. That is to say, a Japanese could *pay* them to an American, at the rate of two to the dollar; but could only *receive* them at the rate of six to the dollar.

And if offered their *itzebu* (one-third dollar) they did not want it—had enough of them! Thus, there was a *half-itzebu* worth fifty per cent. over the whole *itzebu* for the sake of a shallow artifice. The embassy did not bring the former piece (the *half-itzebu*) with them but only the latter (the whole *itzebu*).

The *half-itzebu* were not equivalent in fineness although they were over-full in weight. They assayed 846 thousand fine as against 900, and weighed 210.0 grains as against, say two tenths of a grain, over a half-Mexican dollar.

Thus, there was need for a basis of exchange. Moreover, the coinage had become debased, the feudal lords had secretly issued money, and the country was flooded with counterfeits. Paper money had depreciated and finance was unsound.

It has been shown in the earlier portion of this paper that at the time of the embassy Japan was in a state of internecine strife, that the Shogunate had been undergoing changes, and that a few years later (1867–8) the crisis came in which the real government was restored to the Mikado and the feudal Shogunate abolished. Just prior to this, however, in 1866, the Mikado, or Emperor, had ratified all foreign treaties of the Shogunate, and they continued in force. In 1870 the distinguished statesman, the Marquis Ito, was sent to the United States to study monetary methods and coinage standards. While here he wrote a memorandum on "Reasons for Basing the Japanese New Coinage on the Metric system." During Ito's absence from Japan the Hongkong mint was purchased and with British aid carried over to Osaka. Ito wrote home recommending the ultimate adoption of the gold standard although not yet quite feasible. However, the metric or decimal system was adopted and the currency closely conformed to that of the United States, the *yen* being the equivalent of our dollar and the *sen* the equivalent of our cent. It cannot be

doubted that the first experience of the Japanese with the working of the metric system was obtained in our mint, as the assay process is based on it and the money scheme is decimal, while the British scheme is not. Neither can it be doubted that the impressions carried back by the envoys in 1860 were factors in Ito's mission ten and eleven years later under a new government.

Ito was one of the progressives from Perry days, who (as previously explained) assumed an anti-occidental complexion merely for the sake of opposing the Shogunate. Prince Iwakura who headed the embassy of 1872, was another of those connecting links. He had not been favorable to foreigners but yet he had incurred the enmity of the Shogun's opposers. Under the empire he became one of the ablest of the emperor's advisers and was especially interested in the revision of the old treaties, which it took years to accomplish. Another was Matsukata, the father of the gold standard in Japan and the introducer of the metric system ; and still another was Shibusawa, the father of the national banking system.

In 1872 Ito was here again, this time on a mission of which Prince Iwakura was the head. In an eloquent address in San Francisco, Ito said: "A year ago I examined minutely the financial system of the United States and every detail was reported to my government. The suggestions then made have been adopted and some of them are already in practical operation." The result was as already noted. Banking and even a postal system on American models also followed in this year.

That the lesson of 1860 were active force in this latter day is further evidenced in a private letter to the head of the Assay Department from Dr. H. R. Linderman, previously the chief

clerk of the mint in the days of the embassy and later a treasury agent in Washington versed in mint matter. This letter requested that the two under-assayers do him the favor to prepare as early as convenient a brief description of the processes in use at the mint. "I desire this information," said the letter, "to incorporate in a paper which I am preparing for the Japanese at the request of the department. They shall have due credit for their work and will place me under obligation." This was in March, 1871—the very year of the enactment of Japan's new coinage law under the pressure of Ito and Matsukata.

The two young under-assayers were the schoolboys of 1860, Jacob B. Eckfeldt (the present chief assayer) and the present writer, whose recollections of the envoys of the Shogunate were still vivid in their memories.

In a very real sense, then, Ito had become the connecting link and the effectuating successor of the envoys of 1860, anti-Shogunate as he had been, and now under the new Imperial regime, as he was. Notwithstanding the great break with the past on the incoming of the Meiji or "Enlightened Rule," the restoration to power of the Mikado-Emperor, there was an efficient continuity of the westernism inaugurated officially by the Shogun. The treaties of Perry and Harris and the Washington ratification still held in spite of various attempts to discredit and revise them, even in the seventies. Not until 1894 did such revision take place. To the credit of the Shogunate in its latter days of the sixties be it said, the degenerated condition of its antiquated and heterogeneous monetary system and coinage was realized. It was seen with alarm that western commerce under the treaties was suffering and would suffer unless there was reform in the

coinage. Hence the capital importance of the visit of the embassy of 1860 to the mint at Philadelphia.

The story revealed in these last few paragraphs, however, shows that the spirit of the Shogun and the impressions carried home by his now almost forgotten embassy remained as a wholesome and permanent leaven. Under Ito, Matsukata, Iwakura and others, the impressions carried home by the first embassy came to fruitage not only in an Americanized monetary and coinage system but in what lies deeper than these—the moral standard of a trustworthy precision in the manufacture of coin in which the Philadelphia mint has led the world. That this principle and achievement had become an ambitious scientific and commercial *motif* in new Japan is further evidenced in other ways. For instance, in 1875 sample coins were sent from the imperial mint at Osaka to our Department of State with the request from the Japanese government that these coins be carefully tested at the Philadelphia mint. The result of the test (in which I myself had an active part) was very satisfactory. Similarly, we received for assay through the Japanese legation gold and silver coins in 1876, 1877, 1878, 1880. These were what are known as pyx coins, which are selected at random through the year for an annual test. They were invariably close to the standard, tending somewhat to run over rather than it. Thus the pace set before the embassy of 1860 was the pace which the mint at Osaka under our stimulus was setting for itself. The Enlightened Rule recognized that a nation's position among commercial nations rests in very large degree on the confidence to be placed in the scientific precision of its coinage.

Leaving now this great essential result of the first embassy,

let us look for other indications of its influence in the making of a new Japan.

While in Philadelphia the two physicians attached to the embassy, Measaki and Moryama, together with the governor Narousa-Genosiro, and the interpreter, attend an operation for lithotomy performed by the distinguished Dr. Samuel B. Gross, at the patient's residence. The anaesthetic was administered by the famous Morton himself, the discoverer of sulphuric ether for this use. The whole performance was a revelation to the orientals. They smelt and poured the ether on their hands, astonished at the coldness resulting from its evaporation. After the operation they carefully examined the instruments and showed so much interest in the whole subject that they were invited to attend the Jefferson Medical College, in which Dr. Gross was a professor.

In an address delivered before the students of the Jefferson in February, 1906, Baron Takaki, Surgeon General of the Japanese Navy, said :

Japanese surgery is founded on the teachings of Dr. Samuel D. Gross for so many years surgeon in the splendid medical college in which we are gathered. Dr. Gross' "System of Surgery" translated into German was taken by my countrymen and retranslated into Japanese and upon that has been built up Japanese surgery as practiced to-day.

The Baron said that the thanks of the Japanese nation are due to the medical profession in this country, and added,

The United States has been our teacher. We have tried our best to prove our faith in your teachings and doctrines by effective applications of your principles in safeguarding the health of our people.

In view of the impression made upon the doctors of the first embassy by Dr. Gross himself it is hardly possible that his name was unknown in Japan until his book was carried there

from Germany. Undoubtedly this is another one of those cases of the long slow-but-sure working of American leaven through many political vicissitudes.

It is inadvisable to prolong this paper for many further details of the doings of the embassy during the week in Philadelphia. Suffice it to note, in brief, that among the places visited were Johnson's type foundry—where the orientals were presented with a book of specimen types and cuts and a silver mounted case of type; M'Allister's optical and philosophical instrument establishment where they witnessed experiments with air pumps, electrical machines, etc., and a lantern exhibition in which the Drummond light excited great curiosity; to the great foundries of the Merricks and of Morris, Tasker & Co.; to the gas works, where "grand stands" had been erected and were filled with hundreds of invited Philadelphians of both sexes—chiefly to witness the ascension of two great balloons. (or rather to see Japanese for the first time behold aerial travel); to Bailey's jewelry establishment where, after examining with magnifiers the works of watches, they ordered a lot of them to be sent to their rooms, and where they showed judgment in the purchase of opera glasses, appreciating the chromatic lens, and caring little for such merely ornamental work as their own artificers could equal or excell. They chose the plain and the useful, displaying a keen selective sense. Here, too, the envoys were presented with a medal especially designed and struck by the Bailey house to commemorate the occasion. In addition to these places visits were paid to Baldwin's locomotive works, Sellers's machine works, the water works, and Girard College.

The Japanese were loaded with all manner of specimens of



tools, instruments and products of our skilled workers—including pictures of the Baldwin engines, stereoscopes and views, a superb Sloat sewing machine encased in wood from Mount Vernon and (so said) the Treaty Elm; a Disston saw, level, gauge and square; a set of teeth on a gold plate, and many other samples of American originality, skill and enterprise.

The mention of the set of artificial teeth on a gold plate suggests a pendant to Gross' surgery. The modern development of Japanese dentistry is wholly American. According to Dr. Chiwaki, the president of the Tokio Dental College, dentistry, as an art, is about two centuries old in Japan.

In some respects the old dentistry was barbarous and crude but artificial dentures were made of carved wood—also of alabaster or ivory riveted to a base of hard wood. But on the whole the art was clumsy and its pursuit became disreputable.

"Perry's feat, however," says Dr. Chiwaki, "brought about a many-sided change in the political, social and educational institutions of Japan; and in consequence, the old system of dentistry could not remain unaffected." Two American dentists, Dr. Eastlake and Dr. W. St. George Elliot, opened offices at the beginning of the Meiji era. This was "the first direct cause of the development of our dentistry in the true sense of the word." Other followed, and the Japanese came to the United States for dental education. Japan now manufactures dentist's appliances and supports at least two dental colleges.

The introduction of American dentistry to Japan is not directly traceable to the embassy of 1860 but its acceptance is one of those forms of Japanese confidence in American models first gained as a national leaven in the days of the Shogun.

For the sake of completeness and also to note two or three incidents or facts of contributory import in estimating result this study must follow the embassy out of Philadelphia to New York Saturday, June 18, where there was reception of street procession and general ovation as in Philadelphia. (On this very day the news of the assassination of the regent arrived by letter to the New York *Tribune*.)

According to an account in the *Tribune* the street scenes on the route of entry from the Battery to the Metropolitan Hotel on Broadway, were free from those "riotous excess" which characterized the multitude at Philadelphia. Never, said the *Tribune*, had more human beings been congregated at and below the Battery than the envoys found awaiting them as the boat from South Amboy arrived. But the Metropolitan Hotel was at no time so riotously besieged as was the Continental in Philadelphia.

Barring the visits to two or three manufacturing establishments, the time was chiefly occupied with social functions, shopping, boat excursions, theaters and in packing the mountainous wares which they had bought and which had also been lavishly bestowed upon them largely for advertising purposes. In time, the envoys and lesser officers acutely discerned that they were being exploited. Many invitations were declined. Finally, so indecorous a pressure was put upon them to visit the opera in spite of their resolute declination that a serious affray was narrowly averted.

The embassy, having grown weary of their spectacular exploitation in New York, resolved to cut Boston and Niagara out of their program and set sail for Japan as soon as possible. They accordingly departed by the largest of our naval fleet, the

*Niagara*, on Saturday, June 30, first steaming around the world's wonder, the *Great Eastern*, which had arrived only two days before and which now succeeded the Japanese as a popular ferment.

In the retrospect : Those were stirring times. The greatest ship in the world had crossed the Atlantic, Garibaldi had just taken Palermo, Lincoln had been nominated, and the Democratic Party had split into the Douglass and Breckenridge factions. The ocean cable itself was only two years old ; the John Brown insurrection had occurred only months before ; Mr. Lowe, the aeronaut, was planning a balloon voyage across the Atlantic ; and the Prince of Wales was soon to be entertained.

The New York *Tribune* gave up two pages of small type to a description of the voyage of the *Great Eastern*, and Mr. Greeley editorially declared her to be a wonder without much maritime significance for the simple reason that only three or four harbors in the world could receive so huge a ship. The same big-brained, generally level-headed editor was unable to attach any practical importance to the visit of the Japanese. He saw through New York eyes and thus rhetorically delivered himself :

If they ( the Japanese ) have the acuteness to see, as possibly they have, the uses to which they have been put, to gratify the inordinate vanity, the inordinate greed, and the inordinate folly of those with whom they have come chiefly in contact, and if they believe that in these they see reflected the character of the whole people, than heaven help our reputation, in Japan when these sons of hers go home. But let us hope they did not understand. In the simplicity of their natures and manners let us trust that they have gone back to their own country impressed not only with our material superiority but believing also that in all Christian graces, in the amenities of social life, in the refinements of personal good breeding we are unmeasurably their masters.....Of almost all that an intelligent traveller would like to be informed they have gone away as ignorant as they came .....Against the acquirement of all useful knowledge except in a few

rare instances which make the rule more apparent, they have been sedulously guarded and the opportunity lost which will never recur again of impressing a people eager in the attainment of the arts of peace, with the true source of the wealth and power of Christian civilization.

Another New York paper thus commented :

'They are small of stature, tawny of complexion, sleepy and feeble in their physical appearance and habits, and with only those characteristics calculated to excite a momentary curiosity.

The Philadelphia view was different. *The Inquirer* said :

They saw the triumphs of science and art made subservient to the comfort and happiness not to special classes merely, but to all. They cannot separate these things from the effects of our political institutions and it will be extraordinary indeed if they disconnect them from the benign influence of Christianity.

This is the true note—the note which this paper has essayed to demonstrate as proved by time. Mr. Greeley in the case of the Japanese, as in that of monster ship like the *Great Eastern*, was a bad prophet. He argued that the embassy avowed before arrival that it had no ministerial powers except those of signing the treaty and collecting information concerning our currency with a view to better ultimate international adjustment.

But Mr. Greeley saw nothing in this. He referred to the conferences at the mint but was unable to figure out anything feasible. The relations which gold bore to silver in Japan and their artificial value in coinage forbade any basis of equitable exchange. Indeed, he believed, if through their labors at the mint, the Japanese were to adopt the new standards for estimating the values of the precious metals, "It is easy to see that the monetary affairs of the empire might be thrown into great confusion."

But we in this day know that the Japanese were not so

simple in their natures, not so sleepy and feeble, as the New York editors supposed. Neither did they go away as ignorant as they came. Nor were they so ignorant when they came. Long before Perry's day Japan had her martyrs to progress and reform. News from the outside leaked in and shadows of western mechanism and methods fell on the isolated empire. Men like Fujita Toko and Sakuma Shuri had telescopic vision and sensitive hearing. So the envoys of the Tycoon knew that there were advantages to be improved in going to the United States over and above that of signing the Harris treaty. They had the penetration to see that a sound currency and facilities of finance were the pivot of international commercial relations. They were impressed with the fact that international confidence rested chiefly on that scientific accuracy which they saw in the operations of coinage and especially those that guarded the integrity of the standards of fineness. The problem which Mr. Greeley saw as insoluble, was gradually worked out by Ito and Matsukata until Japan possessed a system of coinage modeled on and comparable with that of the United States, and resting on a gold basis.

A letter written to President David Star Jordan by the distinguished Japanese scientist, Dr. Mitsukuri, in 1900, confirms the trend of this paper as a contention for an unbroken continuity of influence on the development of Japan—in spite of the dismal deliverances of these American prophets of 1860.

Dr. Mitsukuri says :

The history of the international relations between the United States and Japan is full of episodes which evince an unusually strong and almost romantic friendship existing between two

nations. In the first place, Japan has never forgotten that it was America who first roused her from the lethargy of centuries of secluded life. It was through the earnest representations of America that she concluded the first treaty with a foreign nation in modern times, and opened her country to the outside world. Then, all through the early struggles of Japan to obtain a standing among the civilized nations of the world, America always stood by Japan as an elder brother by a younger sister. It was always America who first recognized the rights of Japan in any of her attempts to retain autonomy within her own territory. A large percentage of foreign teachers working earnestly in schools was Americans, and many a Japanese recalls with gratitude the great efforts his American teachers made on his behalf.

Then, kindness and hospitality show thousands of youths who went over to America to obtain their education have gone deep into the heart of the nation, and, what is more, many of these students themselves are now holding important positions in the country, and they always look back with affectionate feeling to their stay in America.

In conclusion, it is immensely interesting to see that what Japan came to America for on her first embassy is precisely *that which she has retained as the essential element of her international development*. She afterward went to Germany for army organization and got it; she went to Great Britain for naval ideas and got them; she came here for coinage, exchange, and got them. Moreover, her friendship with the United States has been practically continuous while from 1861 to 1863 she was in hot water with England and France. . Incidentally, she carried

away our surgery, and no one knows how many minor constructive principles ; later she borrowed our banking and postal systems, transplanted our dentistry, and made obeisance to American invention by overspreading the empire with our telegraph.

The embassy of 1860, as was said at the outset, was but the completing touch of the treaties of Perry and Harris. All these constitute a single event but an event that is a gigantic factor in the world's progress. Why the most practical part of it—the embassy—has dropped into such profound oblivion is beyond comprehension. Perhaps it was one of those events which are too broad and too potent to be discerned in less than a half century as the mark of a world-moving era.

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## II

### OUR FIRST ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE JAPANESE.

*by Dr. F. J. Steiner, Chicago.*

*(From "The Japanese Invasion.")*

It was not, however, until 1860 that America received an important visit from the Japanese. In that year a special embassy was sent to Washington by the Japanese government to exchange the ratifications of the treaty of 1858. Through the efforts of our representative in Japan, Townsend Harris, the Embassy was given passage in American naval vessels and was received as guests of the American government. This Embassy consisted of a Chief Ambassador and a Vice Ambassador, who were princes of the highest rank in the Empire, a Censor and a Vice-Governor, who were also of high rank, and a retinue of officers, inter-

preters, physicians, and servants, the whole party numbering seventy-one persons.

The reception of the Embassy at San Francisco was very enthusiastic. Twenty thousand dollars was appropriated from the city treasury to provide for their entertainment. The city authorities and leading citizens showed the Japanese every possible consideration and did all in their power to make their stay in the city pleasant. Under the auspices of the state and city authorities, a public reception was given the Embassy in the largest hall in the city, which was attended by an immense crowd of people. (*Harper's Weekly*, April 28, 1860)

The trip from San Francisco to the eastern states was made by way of Panama, the Embassy arriving in Washington on May 13, 1860. The Government had made thorough preparation for the reception of the Japanese visitors and treated them with the distinction and courtesy befitting their rank. They were granted interviews by the President and chief officers of state, receptions and banquets were held in their honor, and facilities were given them to visit the places of interest in the city and become acquainted with American institutions. The newspapers of that day devoted a large amount of space to the movements of the Embassy and published much information about Japan and things Japanese. The friendly tone of the newspaper press can be seen in the following quotation from an editorial :\*

During their six weeks' visit in the eastern states, great excitement prevailed wherever they appeared. Every city they visited strove to outdo its rival in providing entertainment for the distinguished guests of the nation. Record-breaking crowds assembled in the streets to see them pass by. The climax of their American visit was the Grand Ball given at the Metropolitan Hotel by the city of New York on June 25. On this occasion it

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\* See pages 159—62.



is asserted that more than ten thousand of the leading citizens of New York and neighboring cities were present. No money or pains were spared in the effort to make it a brilliant affair. A contemporary writer states that "the whole thing was arranged on a scale of unsurpassed splendor, prodigality and magnificence. It was a scene of festivity altogether unparalleled in the history of New York." The arrival of the Japanese guests at the reception is thus described :

The Prince Ambassadors and the principal officers of the Embassy on their entrance from the hotel to the ball-room were received by the Joint Committee of the Common Council and conducted through the various apartments appropriated to the festivities of the evening. On their entrance the beautiful tune of "Kathleen Mavourneen" was struck up by the band. On entering the principal ballroom, chaperoned by the members of the Naval Commission, they were conducted through the throng of guests, who opened right and left, leaving a lane for them to pass through to the pavilion which had been prepared for their exclusive accommodation at the north of the building on the stage of the theater. The interest at this juncture was intense. The guests spontaneously rose, while the cry ran round the immense building of "the Japanese, The Japanese!" Every eye was strained and everyone present stood on tiptoe to see the members of the ubique *corps diplomatique*.....Of the appearance of the guests we can only say that it was in every respect in keeping with the brilliancy of the scene amid which they moved with so much taste and refinement. The Japanese Prince were, of course, the principal attraction and during the evening were the observed of all observers. They were placed in a position which suited them exactly, for, like the performers in a theater, they could see and yet be seen. Our eastern visitors seemed to be greatly delighted at the appearance and animation of the festive throng. Never before in their distant eastern homes did these Japanese gentlemen get entangled in such an ocean of satins, silk, and crinoline as revolved around them last night. They could do nothing else than sit down in quiet amazement at the rapid evolutions made by the lady dancers, who twirled around in the giddy waltz with a rapidity that would have done credit to an artificial fire-wheel. The Japanese could not help expressing their delight

at all they saw and felt, which they did by briefly articulated expressions, by gesticulations and smiles. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, July 7, 1860.)

No reader of the contemporary accounts of the reception of the Embassy can doubt the sincerity of the welcome extended by the American government. The officers of state in their addresses of welcome and in thoughtful planning for the comfort of the Embassy made every effort to convince the Japanese of our friendly attitude toward their nation. The official welcome in all its formal aspect passed off in the most successful manner and reflected great credit upon those who had it in charge.

If we wish, however, to understand the real estimate that was placed upon the Japanese at that time, we cannot depend entirely upon the story of their official welcome. We must take note also of the conduct of the mass of the people, in this their first contact with the Japanese, in order to learn what sentiments and attitudes they revealed. On the occasion of the Embassy's visit to Philadelphia, a correspondent gives a vivid picture of the insults the Japanese had to face.

The most disgusting and brutal language was unsparingly used by the crowd while the procession was passing over the route. This was especially the case in the lower portion of the city where the "governing classes" most do congregate. For instance, at one point, a Naval Commissioner was greeted with the cry of "Say, you man with the epaulets, is that your monkey you have got with you?" And this is but one of a hundred of the humors of the crowd. It is to be particularly regretted that many of these remarks were plainly understood by a portion of the Embassy. This morning some of them came to Captains Du Pont and Porter and said they feared from their conduct yesterday that the American people considered them very ridiculous, and intimated that they should not be so severe in their sarcasms, as the Japanese considered the dress and manners of the people of this country equally curious, if not outlandish. They were evidently under the impression that anything but respect had been shown to them

by many of the roughs, and the Imperial interpreter had reported that they had been called "niggers" while it was ascertained an attempt had been made to pull one of their number out of their carriage.....A drunken fellow carelessly let off a pistol while conversing with a Japanese, who was so enraged at what he supposed was an attempt to murder him that he drew his sword and rushed at the offender, who would have been undoubtedly decapitated, had it not been for the bystanders. (*Harper's Weekly*, June 23, 1860.)

Of course we must not give too much weight to the unrestrained actions of an American crowd, which in its treatment of foreigners and even of its own political heroes has often gone far beyond the bounds or propriety. Without doubt the fact that the Japanese invariably appeared dressed in their native costume helped to magnify in the eyes of the people their foreign peculiarities and further stimulated curiosity. Nevertheless it is true that the mass of the people failed to take the Japanese seriously and persisted in treating them with the condescending familiarity bestowed upon children rather than with the respect due men in their position of power in the state. After their arrival in their hotel in Baltimore we are told that—

.....A party of firemen mounted the balcony and introduced themselves to the Ambassadors. At last one of these noble fellows gave a characteristic and playful vent by taking off his heavy and dripping fire-cap and clapping it affectionately on the head of the Chief Ambassador. This was received with such shouts of laughter that two other facetious firemen dropped their caps on the heads of the other Ambassadors, and the applause was terrific. The Japanese took the matter with the great philosophy, but we have no doubt the historian of the party will make his own comments upon these practical jokes when he submits it to the Tycoon. In the evening fireworks were let off, and the persecuted dignitaries were left to their repose. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 23, 1860.)

There was a disposition on the part of the Americans in general to look upon the Embassy as a show intended to furnish

them amusement. Surprises were manifested when the Japanese conducted themselves with dignity as men of culture. It was plainly evident that they were regarded as men on a lower plane of civilization from whom not much could be expected. Thus we are told that when the Japanese sat down to their first dinner at Willard's Hotel in Washington, "greatly to the disappointment of all who were on the outlook for something funny, the Japanese took wine and used knives and forks like any other well-bred people." Also on the occasion of their first interview with President Buchanan the reporter writes :

The interview, far from being absurd or amusing, as was anticipated, was of a solemn and serious character. Through the strange difference of dress, language, and custom, it was evident that the Ambassadors were men of high character, honor, intelligence, and refinement, and that the New World could teach them no lessons in propriety of demeanor or in a due sense of official responsibility. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 23, 1860.)

The following account of the Embassy's visit to Congress shows clearly the attitude of even more intelligent Americans toward the Japanese :

They were led over the building and shown the splendid ceiling, but, to the astonishment of those introduced, they manifested much more interest in the mode of conducting the legislative proceedings than in any other part of the show. They remained but a short time and then retired, followed, of course, by a loud laugh from the representatives and by a wild mob rush of men and women from the galleries, which were left nearly empty. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 9, 1860.)

Another instance of the indignities to which the Japanese were subjected is brought out in the description of their inspection of the United States Mint at Philadelphia :

It is worth mentioning that the female employees at the Mint behaved in a modest and lady like manner, neither pressing up close to the Japanese nor clasp-

ing their hands nor annoying them in any manner whatever. It is said that this was almost the first instance since the Japanese have been in this country when the princes and suite were not literally annoyed by females when the latter had the opportunity to do so. It should be borne in mind, however, in justice to our fair countrywomen, that those who have thus annoyed them have been principally of the brazen and ignorant sort. (*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 23, 1860.)

It is no wonder that a writer in *Harper's Weekly* should make the following indignant protest against rudeness of the American public :

There are undoubtedly gentlemen and ladies in America, but what a pity that the Japanese will never know it! They have seen some probably during their visit here, but they could not know them in the multitude. They know the gentleman who smashed his hat over their eyes in Baltimore ; the lady who filled up the window in Philadelphia ; the shouting, staring, insulting mob which has dogged them everywhere.....The drollest part of the whole thing is that we speak of the Japanese as if they were barbarians and savages. But we have yet to read of the moment during these proceedings in which the Japanese gentlemen have not been quite as dignified, intelligent, and well bred as any gentlemen in any country or time. The barbarian and savage behavior has been entirely upon our part ; and it is a fair question whether the princes will not return with a profound regret that Japan has so far foregone her ancient traditions as to open her ports to the desolating influx of western civilization. (*Harper's Weekly*, June 23, 1860.)

It thus appears that our first experiences with the Japanese resemble somewhat our treatment of them at the present day. In 1860 as well as in these opening years of the twentieth century there was the friendly attitude of our national government endeavoring in every possible way to promote peace and good will between the two countries. Then as now shrewd business men were quick to see the advantage of trade with the Orient which offered such a wide market for American goods. There were people in those days as well as at the present who admired the

culture of the Japanese and pointed out the lessons we could learn by contact with the Far East. In the attitude of the mass of the people we notice the same tendency to look upon the Japanese in a condescending way, to assign them a position of inferiority, and even to subject them to rude insults.

But in spite of all these points of similarity, our attitude toward the Japanese has undergone a vast change within recent years. An undercurrent of suspicion and dislike has spread over America and has broken out in certain sections in expressions of open hostility. The development of Japan into a world power, our contact with Japanese immigrants under the stress of modern labor conditions, are among the new factors in the situation that have made inevitable the rise of our American-Japanese problem.

It is very evident that we are no longer dealing with an obscure nation getting its first glimpse of the western world. The Japanese are now a highly organized and efficient people who are seeking an outlet in the West for their surplus population. The overcrowded East is making its first advance upon the more sparsely settled West. Hitherto the Japanese have come as suppliants asking to share the opportunities we enjoy. Whether they will later follow Commodore Perry's example and back up their demands with a fleet of battleships it is impossible to predict.

The situation, however, is serious enough to warrant the consideration of those interested in promoting more cordial relations between the peoples of the East and of the West.

THE END



